A. M. T.

that titan of British cinema Michael Winner and the kiss-and-tell king Max Clifford. Last night, he spent the evening with Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. What next? Meeting Britain's Wimbledon hopefuls followed by a Britain

retrospective of Carry On movies?
To be fair, his interview with the erstwhile king and queen of what Polly Toynbee called the "stupidvision" of daytime TV was a more biting affair than one might have ex-pected. From Richard's open-

ing gambit, "Why do you think that so many people found it hard to believe that

about the nice Nicole, tell us about the Nicole you loved," reminded us that these were not exactly questions from Jeremy Paxman or Jonathan Dimbleby (interviewers whom Simpson wisely declined to face). Five minutes with either of them and he

would have been confessing responsibility for the state of

and Judy may have posed some of the questions that prosecutor Marsha Clarke would dearly love to have asked, but their impact was destroyed by the rollercoaster pacing and the awkward segue into an appraisal of Di-

the public sector borrowing by the media frenzy and the more preposterous: we cries of "murderer" which pseeded more than the idiot's cries of "murderer" which bave greeted his stay in Lon-

was acquitted of murdering his ex-wife Nicole and her friend Ron Goldman. When asked what sort of person would have killed Nicole Simpson, O J replied: "I obviously would be speculat-ing. I feel that the answers lie in the world of Fay Rusnick."

The fact that few British viewers would have a clue who Rusnick is (a woman who became Nicole's friend after she had split from O J) made the interview even

OJ survives 10-minute trial by television

Class bullies

Simon Beavis and

E privatised gas industry

thrown renewed chaos yesterday as Brit-ish Gas warned

that plans from its regulator to reduce bills by £30 a year would result in 10,000 job

losses, threaten safety and cut payouts to shareholders.

Amid some of the most vit-

business, Transco.

worth. Analysts predicted

that British Gas could eventu-

ally be forced to halve the

dividend payout to its 1.7 mil-lion small shareholders — the

so-called Sids - and big

If the MMC is called in, it

could result in a six-month in-

trepiece of its plans for the privatised utilities — from

into

MIDDLE-CLASS children are more likely to get builted than their working class schoolmates, according to an ICM poll on 11-to 15-year-olds for The Guardian, writes Martin Linton. Forty per cent of the ABC1 middle-class children

in the survey felt they had been bullied, compared with only 27 per cent of the children of C2 skilled work-ing-class parents.

Middle-class children did

not do significantly more homework than C2 contemporaries. They did one hour, 34 minutes a night on average, and the C2s did one hour, 32 minutes.

Kids. G2 cover story

Obituaries 10 Crossword 15; Weather 16 Radio 16; TV 16



Sex, drugs, bullying, home life
The truth about 11 to 15-year-olds
Exclusive ICM poll of teenagers G2 with European weather ● Plus: Is it really a man's world? G2 pages 12/13

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

New priorities in post-apartheid South Africa

G2 pages 10/11

Education

Gas price

cut spurs

new panic

Share price, p

Falkland veteran flees from Argentine ambush

Tuesday May 14 1996

Sarah Boseley

FORMER British para-trooper has fled from Argentina in fear of his life after being cornered by a baying mob of Falklands vet-

criminal on television.

Ken Lukowiak, whose writing career was launched with a harrowing and highly praised account of the war. praised account of the war called A Soldier's Song, had gone for the Guardian to Buenos Aires to talk to the sol-diers he had faced in battle. Through an intermediary, he arranged to meet two veter-ans of Goose Green in a restaurant last Thursday

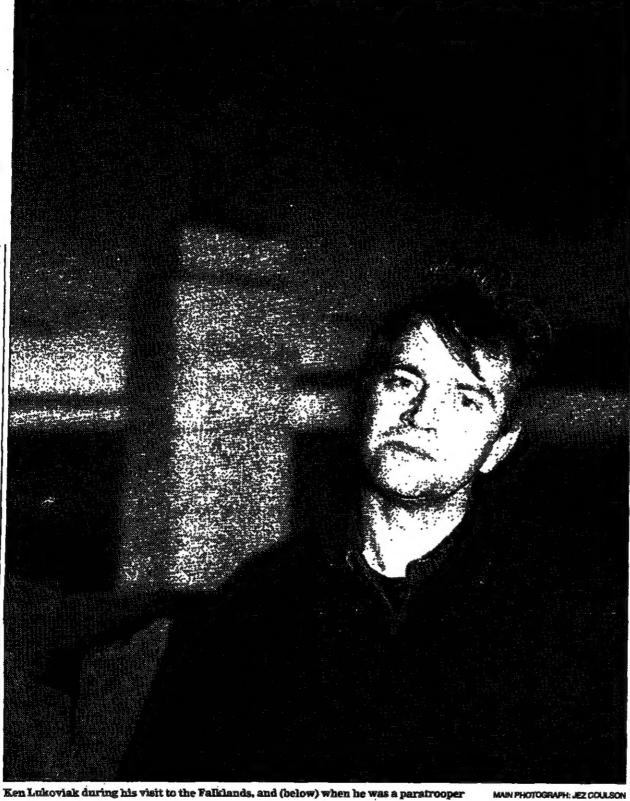
evening. He walked into an ambush. "The first question I was asked was, 'How do you sleep at night?' As I'm asking, 'What do you mean?', lots of lights turned on. There was a television crew heading my way with about 30 people. Then I'm completely surrounded at the table with cameras and lights on me. "They are screaming at me

murderer and I murdered Argentinian soldiers. Mothers of boys who died on the Belgrano are crying and shout-ing that I'm writing in the blood of their sons. I thought they were going to lynch me.

"I was very, very fright-ened. I remember the hate and anger on their faces." He tried to answer the hearing, although he spoke to the television crew once the

protesters had gone. Many of the protesters were waving copies of a passage which described his encounter with an Argentinian soldier on Wireless Ridge, an hour or two after ceasefire was declared. 'I walked up to a trench and crouched down inside on the far side away from me was an Argentinian soldier holding a rifle. To me. he was a pop-up target. It was my instinct and my training. I put about half a magazine into him and I did it very calmiv. I believe, hand on heart, if I had not done that I would not be here talking to you now," he said yesterday. There was no way, he said, that the enemy soldier could

have known about the The incident was shown on



paper, Clarion, the Federation of War Veterans of the Argentinian Republic, who appear to have organised the the Cronica television news protest, called on Sunday for caught a plane bome. The the general prosecutor, Angel next morning. In the country's main national news-

held a rifle. I moved the first finger of my right hand and bullets left the end of my machinegum. They hit the figure in grey. They impacted into his chest and threw him back against the side of the trench. He slid to the ground. His soul left him.

Ken Lukowiak, A Soldier's But Mr Lukowiak had allater, he wouldn't have been ready left the country. He left his hotel immediately, stayed allowed to get on the plane."
The translator at the meetwith a friend overnight, and ing, Dalila Herbst, said she

Crouched in the trench

saw him. He saw me. He

was a figure in grey. I

She wanted to apologise to Mr Lukowiak for what had happened, she said, which was not so much to do with the war as with the way the boy veterans in Argentina had been neglected when they came home. "Nobody took care of them. Many committed suicide and they keep kill-

ing themselves."
Julia Solanas Pacheco, an Argentinian author who has written about the Falklands and worked with the veterans, arranged the restaurant meeting. She said she regret-

A Foreign Office spokes-man said that if they were no-tified of the details, they might take the matter up with the Argentinian authorities,

riolic exchanges between a privatised company and its regulator, British Gas made it 1993 1994 clear that it was prepared to risk a third Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) been involved in a series of try, will be burdened by long-pitched battles with watch-term gas contracts signed beinquiry in five years to get the proposals watered down. The row was sparked by plans from Clare Spottiswoods, director general of Of-gas, to impose tough price controls on British Gas's in the last three years.

dogs since privatisation 10 years ago, has axed 23,000 jobs Yesterday deputy chairman Philip Rogerson said the only

way to meet the price caps would be to cut Transco's 20,000 payroll in half. He said they would cut revenues by pipeline and transportation The price cuts, far more stringent than the City had expected, led to £1.3 billion up to £850 million a year — more than the company had earned in profits in each of being wiped off the company's market value within hours of yesterday's announcement the last two years.
"These draconian proposals equivalent to 13 per cent of its

will impose huge strains on the fabric of the UK gas indus-try at a time of great change." He added: "They are ill-conceived and have to be resisted." As part of the preparations

for competition, British Gas is splitting itself in two, with vestigation which would almost certainly jeopardise the Government's plans to introduce full competition into the domestic gas market — a cen-Transco being potentially the most lucrative new business through its ownership of the country's entire gas network. The other new company, British Gas Energy, which

mestic monopoly and before the onset of competition led to a collapse in prices. This com-pany faces a review of prices by Ofgas within the next But an uncompromising Ms Spottiswoode rejected British

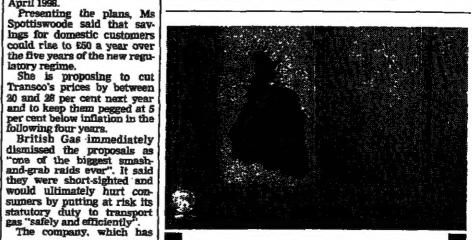
Austin

cuts and safety and said generous although slightly smaller returns if the propos-als went through. She accused the company of being

'emotional". She said the company could face a nasty shock if it forced the MMC to intervene, arguing that the commission could be even tougher. "The intellectual argument [for the controls] is so strong that I cannot believe the MMC

would not agree with us."

Black day for Sid and Notebook, page 11; Leader comment, page 8 will supply homes and indus-



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But the fact that they were depth, exclusive interview don, explained why he had asked by two people anxious was completed in just over 10 bowed to his attorney's adminutes, and the second half vice not to take the stand in time television to a man with of the programme filled with last year's trial, in which he

Interview turns to farce as Neil Diamond takes centre stage

Stuart Jeffries J Simpson is not so much skimming the cream off British life as scraping the bottom of the barrel during his stay in Lon-don. On Sunday he dined with

Sara Thomason

a video to plug undermined one's confidence in the

spectacle.
Only the treacly "Tell us

World News

Europe's biggest

Britain and France

of the programme filled with what Richard grimly promised would be music and conversation with the legendary Neil Diamond, made the interview ridiculous. Richard

mond's ocuvre.
Simpson, looking unfazed

Finance

been forced to

slash prices to

Leicester may six month ban

Manufacturers have challenge the on Neil Back for 6.* nushing the referee at Rugby Union's

them passing costs

on to customers.

seli goods as weak

demand has stooped

cup final.

an her retrial for killing her husband military missile firm, expected to when he illy heard her called a lead to other dannological liar: defence accords.

Sketch

Best of enemies |people at harm's length



Simon Hoggart

ETER Mandelson slumped on the Labour front bench, legs slightly apart, arms folded across his chest, eyes hooded like a wellfed lizard. From time to time he would pull out a pocket bleeper and peer at it.

I had always thought that bleepers were not permitted in the Commons chamber, though no doubt this was one of those silent ones which vibrate gently against the flesh when its owner's attention is required. It must be rather pleasant. Perhaps Mr Mandel-son has a friend who bleeps him now and again, just to

cheer him up. By contrast, John Prescott sat up, looking bright-eyed and perky. Mr Derek Foster sat between them, in order to keep the peace. Mr Foster, who is the party spokesman on the civil service, resemble a snooker referee in manner and appearance. "Now lads, let's see if we can't settle this am-i-cably, right lads?"

For someone who is supposed to be the smooth, behind-the-scenes Mr Flxit of the Labour Party, Peter Man-delson has an extraordinary gift for making enemies. He has been known to "boycott" people for fixed lengths of

time, by way of punishment. We learned this weekend that he has not spoken to Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, for 18 months, although both men have important roles to play in the party's

election campaign.
As for his relations with Mr Prescott, we are told these have "improved". Well, they can hardly have got worse. Possibly they began as incan-descent hatred on Mr Prescott's part and have since been downgraded to rancor-

A mutual friend tells me that Mr Mandelson's greatest skill is in nurturing the people he does like. "If he wants you

First night

Bob Flynn

Twenty Movements for Orchestra/A Scottish Island

After the shimmering, experi-

mental triumph of Rhys Chat-

premieres from Scottish com-

boy Craig Armstrong was the

traditional folk musician Wil-

liam Jackson provided A Scot-tish Island. Both were per-

Chamber Orchestra under the

baton of Cecilia Weston, and the contrast could not have

Armstrong is one of the

most prolific and eclectic com posers of his generation,

whose atmospheric orchestral

work has been heard in every-thing from RSC theatre pro-

Batman Forever. He is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music and Jazz Musician of

the Year, who pays no attention to musical boundaries.

Using the sampled voices of 10 Glaswegians of all ages, de-scribing times of the day as

the starting point for each of

the 20 brief movements, Arm-

music to compelling effect.
Although deliberately frag-

mented, the pace was relent-

less and a taut, bravura per-

Chamber Orchestra illumi-

their McVitie's biscuits only

hours after 150 Greenpeace

supporters dressed as pen-guins yesterday blocked the

entrance to its factory in

Harlesden, west London.

writes Paul Brown.
The fishery, which each year sucks up smillion tonnes

United Biscuits ends use of

fish oil after penguin protest

United Biscuits agreed to phase out the use of oil cause of fears that it affects from industrial fisheries in the stocks of haddock and

year sucks up 8million tonnes uses 6,000 tonnes of fish oil in of sand eels for the sea bed is its McVitie's brand each year.

strong laced sentences and snatches of words into the

ductions to the film sound-tracks of Goldeneye and

ham's extravaganza for 100 guitars, it offered two world

posers in one programme. New Glaswegian wonder-

man behind Twenty Move-ments for Orchestra, while

formed by the Scottish

been more dramatic.

AYFEST this year is

King's Theatre, Glasgow

on his side, he lavishes all his charm, his affection and his hard work on you." this friend told me. "He is like a little puppy." I suppose this makes him Britain's only lap-

The Labour team was facing Michael Heseltine, who was curiously downbeat. He perked up only with a question from Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesham, or the Unquiet Gravesham as we now call it), who had been dug up by the whips yesterday morning to ask about Mr Mandelson's

feud with Gordon Brown. "An interesting thought," said the Hezza, genially. "I would like to hold a reception, so that they can get together in convivial circumstances and

iron it all out."

Mr Skinner snarled that the Prime Minister had talked about having three bastards in his Cabinet. Yet the leader ship election last year implied there were fully 89 bastards.

Mr Heseltine beamed at him. "I will invite you to the reception as well," he said. Yesterday's questions ended with my favourite monthly session, as Michael Alison (C, Selby) answers for the Church Commissioners. The moment came and the sur suddenly poured through the windows, bathing the cham-

ber in a radiant light.
Tony Banks (Lab, Newham
NW) was outraged — or at
least was pretending to be outraged — by the fact that the Bishop of Chelmsford had said he was dissatisfied with his episcopal palace, although it has six bedrooms and sits in three acres.

"If a manger was good enough for our Lord, then whingeing from princes of the Church is not good enough for us!" (I had always assumed that a manger was where, in his grumpier moods, Mr Man-

delson kept his dog.) Mr Alison replied, in that slow, fluting voice reminiscent of the more old-fashioned Angio-Catholic priests: "The Bishop occupies only a small part of the palace, which is impossibly close to the A12, a dual carriageway, so you can-not hear yourself think, speak

or pray." Mr Banks snorted with scorn. "It's only the Lord needs to hear you pray!" he shouted. Some people just don't know how to behave in

nated the piece with a tension and drive that never faltered,

as sampled words and looped reggae beats shot through the

movements, while images and

lighting effects were projected

on to a transparent screen in

Over the collage of sounds, the glorious, cool power of mezzo-soprano Colette Ruddy

sailed out, sometimes singing

the spoken narrative, some-times overlapping with the

music, creating an ethereal

soundscape that was sinister, strident and beautiful in turn.

The important thing was

It originated very much from the traditional places of Scot-

tish music, but the idea of

harps, whistles and pipes, with a dreamy backdrop of

strings, never caught fire.

Armstrong's cutting edge

landscapes was outdated.

It was probably unfortunate to combine the two works, as

only heightened the sense that Jackson's evocation of island

cod. Greenpeace and bodies such as the Royal Society for

the Protection of Birds are

concerned about the wildlife,

including puffins for which the sand eel is a staple diet during the breeding season. United Biscuits currently

blending folk sounds, using

front of them.

Soundscape with

emotional punch

'A lot of are going to be sued before I am through with this'

O J Simpson



O. J. Simpson makes a point during his live interview on Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan's new evening chat show

No answers in OJ quiz show

cursive replies. Compared with Richard and Judy, the 48-year-old former football star looked relaxed in an open necked shirt, as well he might. After all, there was much more at stake for them than him. This was the first of Tonight With Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan, a live show in which the pair were clearly determined to banish the nemory of their failed Sunday evening programme, The Richard and Judy Show, as guished daytime interviewing

For Simpson, having claimed his fl interview fee and collecting as much as £40,000 expenses from Granada Television for the trip, this was an occasion for comthis was an occasion for com-plaint against media misrep-resentation during the trial.

"A lot of people are going to be sued before I am finished with this, especially the tab-loids," he said. It was also a time for him to plug the video in which he reconstructs his activities on the night of the activities on the night of the

Simpson said "Oh, Jesus" as the interviewers wound up the proceedings, perhaps in protest at the farcically brief nature of the interview, but more likely in relief. Now he has to negotiate interviews

'flat broke and in debt". But he went on: "I haven't profited from this terrible in-

the unexpected emotional punch. One of the movements cident. Before this my life was very comfortable. Right now l in which a child's voice dehave no financial security." scribed the flowers in a French garden, was a seam-At one time it was esti-mated the American football less blend of narrative, or-chestra and song creating a sense of child-like wonder, while movement 16, a woman describing an early morning birth, had an eerie grace.

With this haunting new work, Armstrong is moving towards a kind of new opera where multi-media is a redun-He told the Voice he some dant term and the sampler is dant term and the sampler is an integral part of the orchestra.

William Jackson's A Scot-tish Island, was a weak water-colour beside Armstrong's dark, edgy work and sounded delicate and under-developed.

with a golfing magazine.

• In an interview with the fected him. Voice newspaper yesterday, OJ Simpson admitted the murder trial had left him

and movie star had a fortune of nearly 27 million but since the trial in which he was acquitted of killing his wife and Ron Goldman, his earnings have plummeted.

times woke up at night thinking of his dead wife. "At four o'clock this morning I was lying awake and thinking of Nicole ... and asking myself what am I doing here."

continued from page 1
guide to the OJ murder trial
at the start of the programme
to understand Simpson's dis-



☐ "If you ask people to believe your innocould hear what you had to say - and, oh by the way, can I please borrow your good luck charm for the next year?"

John Humphrys, presenter of Radio 4's



☐ "How can you prove to me that you car with a gun to your

Melvyn Bragg, presenter of Start the Week and LWT's South Bank Show



"If you're prepared to talk to me, why wouldn't you you run away in that | talk to the jury - and where did you leave the knife?"

Richard Littlejohn, presenter of LWT's Littlejohn Live and Uncut



got away with it if you to get him to confess, hadn't had the money | so I would come at to pay for the most expensive lawyers in the land? And if you had not been black. would you have got

Nick Clarke, presenter of The World at One



☐ "Would you have ☐ "You are not going him from a different angle: You say you didn't do this, so what is it like to be accused and why aren't you angrier?

Larry King, presenter, CNN's Larry King nterviews by Andrew Culf

ومن المستقرة الم

Simpson said that criticism of him by fellow celebrities and the media had not af-

Film star Bo Derek, 40, efused to appear on the Richard and Judy programme with him and boxer Mike Tyson has told O J to "keep his mouth shut and stop going around telling everyone he is

nnocent". But Simpson insisted his neighbourhood in the exclusive suburb of Brentwood in Los Angeles was fully behind him. "My neighbourhood has

heen supportive."
There had been campaigns to force him out of Los Angeles, but to those who want him out he said: "I have been there for 19 years and I think you are the squatters. If you lon't like it, you move." He added: "I now know who

my friends are." He denied he only took notice of the race issue and during and after the trial. Some people had regarded

before his arrest.
"I saw some inequities in the legal system and some stereotypes over the years. With the media its a stereotypical thing how they write about and view people of colour. With the legal system its how they treat us."
He insisted: "White Amer-

ica is still with me ... I am hoping that some day that the whole world gets to be colour blind."
Asked why he felt he had to

run, leading to the live television car chase, be said: "I just felt I wanted to get away, to make all the pain go away. I was not running away, I just wanted the hurt to stop."

He said there was no special woman in his life at the moment and denied alle-

Ministers' beef threat

John Palmer in Brussels

ROSPECTS for a partial lifting of the European Union ban on British beef hung in the balance last night as the Government ed veiled threats to block the EU's decision-making machinery if there is no early easing of the embargo. With governments still split

on the wisdom of lifting the ban, the key decision rests in the hands of a committee of veterinary experts from the 15 EU countries which meets in Brussels tomorrow. Malcolm Rifkind, the For-

eign Secretary, warned EU foreign ministers in Brussels yesterday that a continued refusal for a limited easing of the ban would "intensify the frustration felt by both the people and the Government in Britain".

state government was to op-pose that," he said last night. Although Mr Rifkind did not say how the Government would retaliate, British sources admitted that a wide range of measures were being considered in London. These could range from demands for extra EU ministerial meet-ings and a possible crisis meeting of heads of government to the deliberate block-

ing of some or all RU decisions on other matters. Thought has also been given to a partial or complete "empty chair" policy similar to that followed by France under President de Gaulle in the mid-1960s.

But British officials fear that abstention from meetings in Brussels might rebound on the Government | between 20 per cent and 30 in Britain".

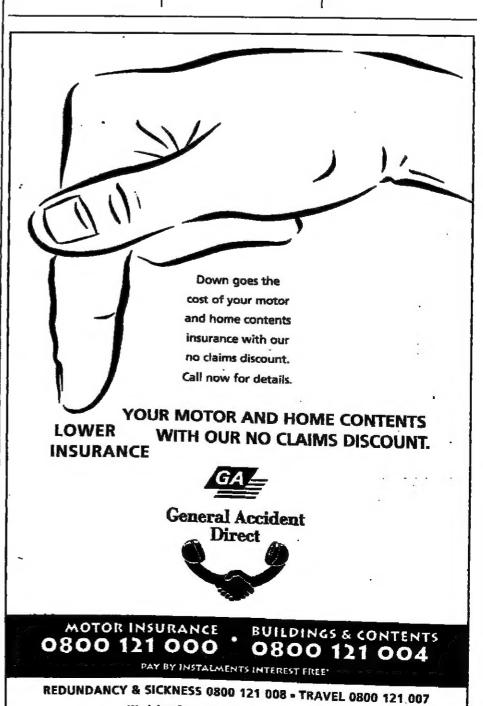
Since the Commission has recommended an easing of EU. Last night EU ministers end of March.

the ban it would not be debated potential areas for remotely fair if any member more majority voting, possimore majority voting, possi-bly linked to giving further "opt outs" to dissenting countries such as Britain, during a session of the conference to review the Maastricht treaty.

Much will depend on the attitude of the French govern-

ment. Mr Major will use his meeting with President Jac-ques Chirac in London today to demand support on the BSE issue, in return for Britain's support when the rest of the EU condemned French nuclear tests in the Pacific last year.

 Sales of British beef are running at 94 per cent of 1995 levels, with the public showdence", the Meat and Livestock Commission said yesterday. Sales dropped by per cent when publicity about BSE was at its height at the



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'A bivouac 150 metres below the summit in bad weather means you're going to aet frostbite, and it could go through to death. He would have been aware of that' Peter Hillary



Doomed climber's final call

show 🏕 😘 👣 🗃 Ve asked 🕅

Seaborn Beck Weathers in Kathmandu after being rescued

John Duncan

OB HALL knew he was probably going he and his party were trapped at 25,200ft, frostbitten, without a tent or sleeping bag and almost no oxygen, fluids or

So on Saturday night, the New Zealander picked up the radio as bad weather closed in, called the radio operator and asked to be put through to his pregnant wife.

Only she knows exactly what he said, though friends later came on the line and encouraged him, telling him he was going to be okay. "He said: "Hey, look, don't worry

about me'," said his assistant | expect to face sheer rock | ing clients organised by New Madeleine David, from New | faces and treacherous ice, but | Zealand firm Adventure Con-

A climbing colleague painted a bleaker picture. "A bivouac without equipment 150 metres below the summit in bad weather means at the very least you're going to get frostbite, and it could go right through to death," said Peter Hillary, son of Sir Edmund, last night. "He would have been aware of that."

Now Hall, who had climbed the mountain five times, is as sumed dead, along with eight other climbers from three separate expeditions. After one of the worst weekends in the history of climbing on the mountain, the recorded death

being married to him for a

year she would lose her interest in the house."

The jury was also told that

Mr Thornton was expecting a

large sum of money after

working in Saudi Arabia and

that his wife planned to forge

Thornton allegedly told a number of close friends that

she planned to kill her hus-band, the court was told.

while attending a work con-ference. Thornton told Helen

Thomas, a colleague who is to give evidence at the trial, "The only way to sort this out is to kill him."

On the day of the murder.

Thornton met a taxi driver

happy and bouncing."
The hearing continues.

Mr Escott-Cox said that

his signature to obtain it.

toll stands at 67. Those attempting Everest

the mountain's fatal distraction is the weather, which can close in quickly and leave competent climbers stranded

There is a two-week window of opportunity in May when wind, temperature and snow are at their friendliest. But the "season" carries no guarantees and when a bliz-zard struck the summit on Friday, Hall would have known that there was only a slim chance of escape. His wife, who had climbed Everest with him three years ago, would have known too.

With Hall was fellow New Zealander Andrew Harris. who also perished. They were leading an expedition of pay-

sultants. "Two guides have lost their lives, and two clients," Hall's assistant Madeleine David said from the firm's headquarters in Christclimber.

church, New Zealand. One of the two other vic tims from the New Zealand expedition was Yasuko Nanba, aged 47, who recently had become the second Japanese woman to conquer

Also dead is Douglas Hansen, an American, aged 44. Unconfirmed reports say that Hall might have survived had he not lagged behind to care for the severely ill Hansen as the group made their way to

It is being suggested that

Scott Fischer, who was in charge of a party from his company Mountain Madness, may also have perished attempting to rescue another

His own clients returned safely to base camp but Fi-scher was found late on Friday night in a coma and at-tached to a rope, apparently having made a vain attempt to rescue a Taiwanese climber who was not a mem ber of his group. Three Indian

climbers also died. Others were luckier. Nepali rescuers sirlifted two severely frostbitten climbers to Nepal's capital Kathmandu by helicopter yesterday but reported that there were still

another American who died, | ditions on the mountain, al-

Six other clients from Hall's party, one guide and two Sherpas, made it to a camp lower down the mountain. an American, Seaborn Beck Weathers, a 49-year-old Dallas pathologist who scaled Ever-est on Friday — was airlifted to Kathmandu yesterday with

severe frostbite.
Also lifted out with frost-bite was Taiwan's Ming-Ho Gau, a 47-year-old photogra-pher from Taipei, who led a five-member expedition to the summit on Friday. Both men were in critical condition, rescuers said though Weathabout 50 climbers in 11 expe- | ordeal last night.

But South Tyneside's edu-

Sara Thornton 'a violent liar'

Prosecution at retrial alleges cash motive for killing husband

Vivek Chaudhary

ARA Thornton, accused of killing her husband almost seven years ago, broke down in tears yesterday as the jury at her retrial heard her described as a pathological liar with an alcohol problem who committed murder out of "financial considerations".

The retrial was ordered by the Court of Appeal last De-cember. Thornton, 41, denies murdering her husband in

Brian Escott-Cox, QC, pros ecuting, told the jury at Oxford crown court that alcothe relationship between Sara and Malcolm Thornton, which became violent within months of their meeting at a bub in 1987.

The jury of eight men and four women was told by Mr Justice Scott Baker: "This case is in fact a retrial or-dered by the Court of Appeal. There was an earlier trial but it is the evidence in this court that you have to consider." Mr Escott-Cox told the court that Thornton killed her 44-year-old husband as he lay in a drunken stupor on the sofa in their home in Atherston, Warwickshire.

the night, Thornton broke down in tears and sobbed: 'Please take me home.' Mr Escott-Cox said that

Thornton suffered from a per-sonality disorder which was only discovered after the death of her husband.
"The effect of it was to

make her a compulsive atten-

"The Crown submits that she frequently tells people what she wants them to hear regardless of the reality of the situation. Another cruel way of putting it . . . is that she is a

called to the Thorntons' home, following violence, on at least five occasions.

As he outlined the events of cott-Cox.

tion seeker. One of the ways that she did that was to shock people in what she said, what she did, how she dressed, and

nathological liar." Mr Escott-Cox told the court that the police had been

in a London clinic in 1968 but Mr Escott-Cox told the had begun drinking heavily court that the killing was once again, losing his job and prompted by financial consid-

driving licence.
Two days before the mur-der, a day which Mr Escott-Cox referred to as "the Sun-day from hell", the Thorntons had been arguing. Sara Thornton, who was preparing a meal, threatened her husband with a knife, said Mr Es-

After being disarmed by her stepson, Martin, Thorn-ton then fed her husband chicken which had been spiked with six tablets of

Mogadon. The court heard that on the night of her husband's death, Thornton had gone for a drink with Martin, Mr Thornton's son by his first mar-riage. She had scribbled on the bedroom dressing table mirror with lipstick: "Bastard Thornton. I hate you."

The jury heard that when Thornton arrived home she found her husband asleep on the sofa. She went into the kitchen and took a knife from a drawer. "The knife was large and sharp and well pointed. About six inches went into his (Mr Thornton's) body just below the rib cage Mr Thornton, a former on the left hand side. She police inspector, had been treated for his drink problem the knife into him."

Teaching union forces climbdown over return of erations. He said: "Sara 'violent' pupil Thornton had a fixation, that if she left Malcolm before

Peter Hetherington

GOVERNMENT proce-dures for dealing with disruptive pupils were thrown into further chaos last night when a teaching union thority to back down over the re-admission of an allegedly violent boy.

The National Association of

Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers claimed victory after a day of negotia-tions by keeping 12-year-old Graham Cram out of a class-room at Hebburn Comprehensive school, on South Tyne side — in spite of a ruling by an independent appeals panel, backed by the local di-rector of education, that he should return to "normal"

friend and the two went for a drink. She allegedly told him, "I'll knife the bastard," refer-ring to her husband. The court heard evidence The union, angered that the for the prosecution from Henry Cooper, Thornton's father. He claimed that he school's decision to expel the boy had been overturned by the panel, claimed Graham briefly met bis daughter at was a threat to teachers' safety. He is alleged to have his Devon home days before punched a teacher last July. School governors and the head teacher, facing strike the murder and she appeared



Graham Cram arrives at Hebburn Comprehensive school, South Tyneside, yesterday with his father, Peter

action if any NASUWT mem- | the maintenance of sensible bers were forced to teach the discipline and the protection boy, met the union's general of teachers and other pupils secretary, Nigel de Gruchy, for four hours yesterday. Thirty minutes after police warned Graham's father. Peter, to leave the school, Mr de Gruchy emerged trium-phant as head teacher Madelaine Watson attempted to supervise a "personal educa-tion programme" with a sup-

ply teacher, away from other

against violence," Gruchy said. He revealed that the union would take a further secret ballot to prepare for strike action if this proved

necessary in the future.
"That's good news for everyone and hopefully for the youngster concerned. His interests have not been very well served by all the publicpupils. ity his father is managing to "We have struck a blow for achieve for him."

cation director, Ian Reid, challenged the union's call for the abolition of the independent appeals panels, which was introduced as the Government devolved power to schools. While Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, was reviewing the work of the panels, he said, "natural justice" would still require the right of appeal to an independent body Ms Watson said she had not

refused to re-admit the boy, but members of the NASUWT had refused to teach him. 'T have worked personally with the pupil this morning. I am prepared to continue ... pending further consultation with the local education authority, the governing body and parents.

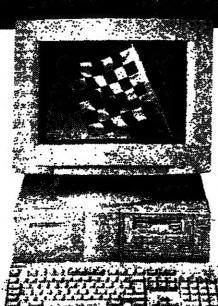
The day began with the boy's father, 39-year-old Peter Cram, insisting that he would not tolerate his son being taught in isolation from other pupils - a compromise pupils — a compromise reached early last December after a panel ruled against the school and said the boy should be readmitted to

He later accepted his son could not immediately return to class, but denied he had backed down. "I have never refused one-to-one tuition ... I have just got to wait, day by day, and see what happens. I want what's best for Gra-ham." He still threatens unspecified legal action.

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Government backs idea of parallel discussions

'Separate' Ulster arms talks mooted

HE Government is privately backing the idea of separating the issue of decommissioning paramilitary weapons from the main talks on the future of Northern Ireland on

The call for separate, but parallel talks on paramilitary weapons was first made by the Irish foreign minister. Dick Spring, last month, but is winning cautious private support from the Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, as well as Labour spokesman Mo Mowlam.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, yesterday played down speculation of an early reinstatement of the IRA ceasefire. But British ministers are eager to set ground rules for the June 10 talks in such a way that negotiations on decommissioning would not block progress.

Before the start of all-party talks, ministers want to dishow the talks would be held. including whether they would all be in the same room, and how they would be required to honour the six principles of the Mitchell Commission, the pre-condition for talks.

Ministers believe that it will not be necessary for individual Northern Ireland poli-ticians to sign up to the Mitchell principles, but in-stead for the political parties to do so. David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, insists his party will not speak to Sinn Fein until it not only agrees to the Mitchell principles, but does so in a way that they are seen to be honoured. Ministers also want prior

agreement on the agenda In the face of conflicting signals from Sinn Fein, the Government appears unclear whether the IRA will announce the restoration of the ceasefire before the talks, but is stressing that proven restoration after the start will still allow Sinn Fein to take its

are also planning to publish a hill on the decommissioning of arms before the talks. The bill would provide an amnesty for those who hand over have committed crimes. The mood lifted in North-

ern Ireland yesterday after a to a new overture from Sir Patrick.

hoped there would be genuine discussions on an open discussions on an open agenda "with nothing pre-ordained, nothing ruled out, nothing ruled in ..., it's just as important that that should be made clear as it is important that the issue of decommissioning has got to be addressed". After Sir Patrick had

apparently down-graded the importance of a surrender of chairman, Mitchel McLaughlin, gave it a cautious wel-come. He told Irish radio that if John Major gave the same reassurances "then I think we would know there is a poten-



Irish foreign minister Dick Spring with SIr Patrick Maybew yesterday Photograph: SEAN SMITT

Lloyd Webber walks into court show stopper

HE composer Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber has failed in an attempt to bring the curtain down on a rambling show in which he

is the unwilling star.

More than 20 years after
moving to Sydmonton Court,
an 18th century mansion near Basingstoke, Hampshire, he grew tired of walkers using a footpath through the estate and coming within 50 metres of his home, which is near Watership Down. But his fivewas lost yesterday. Ron Amblin, the govern-

ment inspector who conducted the two-day public in-quiry, decided that re-routing the footpath — which dates from at least 1759, according to campaigners — would be a loss to the public. "The provi-sion of better distant views does not balance the loss of limited close views of listed buildings," he said.

The footpath commands close-up views of three Grade II listed buildings on the loyd Webber estate. But walkers also come across the composer's guests, accommodated on the other side of the path to the main house.

Kate Ashbrook, spokeswoman for the Open Spaces Society, said Sir Andrew was concerned about his guests having to "mingle with the public. He was also worried about security, but if people want to do something nasty,

Sir Andrew was said to be disappointed by the decision, but his staff denied that it was he who really wanted the path moved. Estate manager Jonathan Webster said in a statement "This was a Hampshire county council scheme which as they had been convinced by the council that the proposal would open up signifi-cant areas of Watership Down to walkers and other users."

But Harvey Davies, council rights-of-way manager, said:
"The application was not instigated by the council. We are obliged under the Highways Act of 1980 to examin any application from a land

The estimated \$7,000 cost of the inquiry will be met by the council, with Sir Andrew pay-ing for the professional witnesses his legal team, led by Jeremy Sullivan QC, called.

Protester David Ramm, who has sold 3,000 copies of a book which includes the walk around Sydmonton Court, said: "If we had lost this it would have been terrible. [Sir Andrew] is only a guardian of the estate. He can't take it with him when he's gone."

Wogan attacks ITV grounds 'incompetent' duchess's **BBC** during Eldorado saga | Helicopter

UNTIL now Terry Wo-BBC had been confined to gentle mocking of its chair-men on his Radio 2 show. Marmaduke Hussey had been caricatured as living in a cardboard box outside Broadcasting House, while the BBC is now in the grip of the "hand of Bland", its

new chairman, Sir Christopher But today Mr Wogan,

The BBC had refused to let him give up his thrice-weekly television chat which allowed the press to say 'Wogan axed'. I felt peeved by the insensitivity — no, incompetence — with which it was handled", he says in an interview in the Radio Times, published on the decision.

today. "But what kind of fool am I to expect competence from a huge monolith?" He admits a sense of satisfaction when Eldorado was

also deemed a flop and axed after less than a year. The Reithian idea of edu-The Reithian idea of edu-cation, information and that ITV will be looking for a sold down the river in favour of instant success, trivial light entertainment, soap operas, sitcoms and quiz games, according to the former Blankety Blank host, aged 57.

"Some of today's leading classic shows generated very few commissioned episodes in their early years whereas Budgie, after only two years, has already accumulated 39 entertainment had been 11-minute episodes."

Budgie the

HE Duchess of York's finances were dealt another blow yesterday when ITV confirmed it had turned down plans for a fourth cartoon series of Budgie the Lit-

tle Helicopter.
The ITV Network Centre said the third series of the cartoon based on her children's book, which was shown last winter, had flopped in the ratings. Pro-grammers had decided it was time to "freshen up" the after-

Earlier this year in the United States the duchess best known for lampooning | signed a multi-million pound the efforts of Norwegians in the Eurovision Song Con-test, lets fly at the "incom-designed to restore her fitence" of the BBC, claim- | nances. The duchess, soon to ing it sacrificed his be divorced from the Duke of reputation for the £10 million soap Eldorado.

York, is thought to have debts of several million pounds.

A spokeswoman for ITV said: "The last series was not as successful as the other two show a year before it was dropped in 1992. Then it "sacrificed me for Eldorado" stiff competition from other programmes and there are lots of factors involved. We might take it up again some time in the future."

The duchess's office said she had no comment to make

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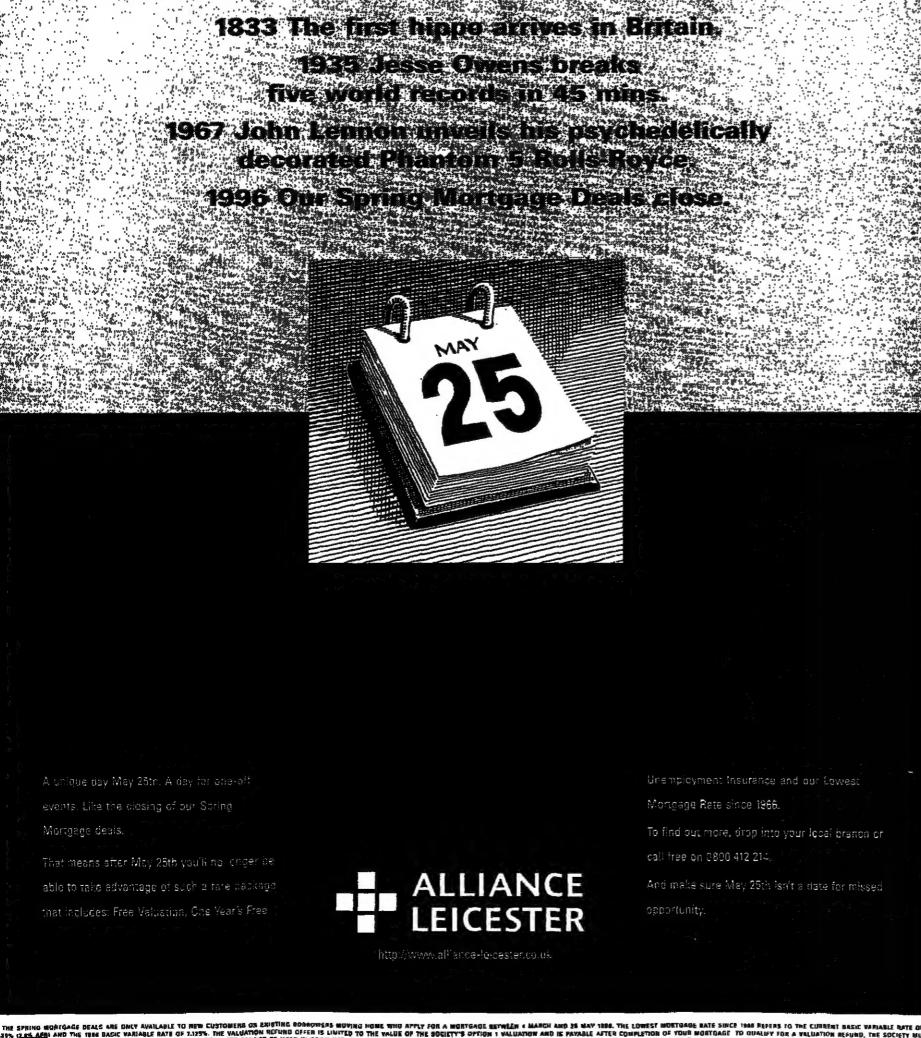
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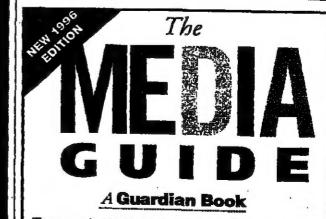
Sleepy Kids, the company which markets and distrib-utes the Budgie programmes and merchandise, played down the the blow.

A spokesman said: "Rarely does an animation series get commissioned year after

fourth series in 1997.



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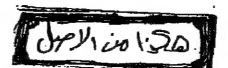
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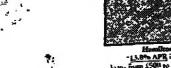
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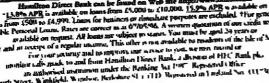
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Home is the hunter...the one-time terror of Soviet stategists arrives at Coulport, 'a sad day' for Sir Jock Slater, the First Sea Lord







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The Guardian Tuesday May 14 1996

Final cruise for

HMS Repulse

David Fairtsall

OR men who have

spent the last two

months under water contemplating the destruc-

cruise down Loch Long is probably as good a pick-me-

up as any. Yesterday HMS Repulse

drifted up the slender sea

loch to Coulport, the home base for the last of the UK's Polaris submarines.

On the jetty, an officer who refused to give his name, fought gallantly to

preserve military secrets. How many missiles was

Repulse carrying?
"Between 0 and 16," he

How long would they take to unload?

on the weather.

Mick Variey

"Um, variable, it depends

On the rubber-tiled hull, a dozen deckhands in white

woolly polo necks warmed their hands in bijou blue li-

Once Repulse was along-side, a succession of naval VIPs burst out of the black

conning tower like starlets

OLICE were waiting last night by the hospital bed of a woman to question her

about the discovery of a

baby's body in her freezer.
Emma Gifford, 20, daughter of Michael Gifford, who last month retired after 13 years as chief executive of the Rank

Organisation, was admitted after her brother, Kris, opened the freezer and found

Detectives have called for

further scientific tests, after

the initial post morten ex-amination "proved

inconclusive".

A Metropolitan police spokesman added: "Police are

investigating the circum-stances surrounding the death of a new-born baby boy. A post mortem beld last week

it well," beamed 68-year-old Rear Admiral Tony Whetstone, who had taken

Repulse on its first patrol

commander of Repulse's squadron, pointed out that

into service just as the Prague spring was being snuffed out, and had played

a part in the subsequent stabilising of the world. The First Sea Lord, Sir Jock Slater, acknowledged it was "a sad day", but reminded everyone that Po-

laris was only being replaced by bigger and bet-

"Deterrence is in the eye of the beholder, and Tri-dent is what we require for

now and into the next

Ironically, Polaris's de

commissioning may also prove to be a watershed in

anti-nuclear protests. At

Faslane, a few miles south, Pat Freeborn revealed that

to stop Trident and it hasn't, shrogged 28-yearold Ms Freeborn, one of

it was a natural death." The body of the baby, thought to have been born on April 5,

was discovered at Miss Gif-ford's flat in Kensington, west

The child is believed to have died within two hours of his birth through a "lack of

care". None of her family knew

the former student, who dropped out of Edinburgh university and hoped to be-

come an actress, was preg-nant. She recently split up with her long-term boyfriend. Mr Gifford, of Little Chart,

near Ashford, Kent, who recently married his third wife, Nancy, declined to

Asked whether there would be any statement from the

family or through their solici-tors, he said: "Absolutely not

now and not ever."

was inconclusive and further tests are being carried out to establish what the cause of death was and whether or not

ter equipment.

millennium.

ded the one-time terror of Soviet strategists towards its final mooring.

peace camp is considering abandoning its vigil after 14 years.

leaping from a Hollywood dwindling band of six birthday cake. whose brightly-daubed car-

"Polaris proved that awans still hug a strip of when you give the navy a difficult job to do, it will do Clyde submarine base.

Police to question woman over dead baby in freezer

in 1969.

BRITAIN 5 Trident fears raised as Polaris goes early

until the turn of the century. This tends to confirm what

the Admiralty has always pri-

vately admitted - that the

fourth submarine is in reality a £500 million insurance poi-

being lost or damaged.

The fact that the operational life of Polaris has been slightly cut, albeit after 28

years, might seem to endorse this cautious approach. Sev-eral of the deterrent fleet have been afflicted by the same reactor problems, in-

Propulsion reactor problems end life of nuclear submarine

than their predecessors. But without Polaris scrapped earlier than ex-pected following propulsion

to operate an effective deter-rent," the Campaign for Nu-clear Disarmament said. Some Labour MPs share CND's scepticism. In the runboats available until 1998 and the last will not be completed

up to the last general election there was talk of an incoming Labour government cancel-ling the fourth boat — at which stage perhaps £250 million of its £500 million cost

could have been saved.

By now all this money is effectively committed. But over the next 30 years substantial expenditure on refits, personnel and dockyard support could still be avoided by running only a three-boat fleet and this option is bound to be explored in the defence review Labour has promised if it wins next time.

• A deal in which Canada was to buy four Upholder class British submarines ap-

pears to have been scrapped. Britain had hoped the £330 million deal would be agreed to by the end of the last finan-cial year. Michael Portillo, of Defence line. "Switching to Trident now blows apart the argument that Britain needs a counterpart, David Collen-

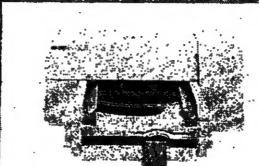
David Fairhail Defence Corre

HE last Polaris missile submarine was prematurely retired yesterday raising that hundreds of milof pounds may have

Syne drifted across the Clyde as the 8,400 tonne HMS Repulse completed the last Polaris patrol after 28 years.
The retirement questions the insistence by defence chiefs that £12 billion had to e spent on four rather than three new Trident submarines even though these more efficient vessels can spend far more time at sea

volving cracked pipework in the primary cooling system, that crippled the navy's older hunter-killer submarines. But anti-nuclear campaigners have nevertheless refused to accept the official Ministry minimum of four submarines | ette, in Ottawa yesterday.

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Anglo-French missile giant Communist drops

Paul Webster in Paris

RITAIN and France agreed to set up Europe's biggest military missile firm yesterday, on the eve of President Jacques Chirac's British state visit which is expected to lead to other military or

defence accords.

News that British Aerospace and Matra-Défense were merging their missile production units to create an industry with a £1 billion annual turnover, coincided with a decision to cut the French defence budget. Mr been hit by a drop

Chirac is likely to encourage more joint research and development to slash the French budget deficit and meet the European Union's single cur-

rency criteria.

Military co-operation be tween Britain and France has been made easier by his decision to reintegrate France into Nato's supreme command. Matra-Défense appears to have persuaded its British

partners that the head office should be in Paris, although the two companies will have a 50-50 share. But there has been no announcement about

French arms firms have

decisions to reduce orders because of a move to an all-professional army in 2001. The merger means the French will

ing new markets for French military technology was underlined during yesterday's cabinet meeting which be able to offer their technol- decided to cut defence spend

Chirac is likely to encourage more joint development, to slash his budget deficit

ogy in a bid for three big Briting by about 20 billion francs ish arms programmes. These (£2.5 billion) over the next six ish arms program concern an air-to-ground cruise missile for Tornadoes and British Eurofighters; an air-to-air missile with a range of about 60 miles; and a heli-

The government spokes man, Alain Lamassoure, said

ties in providing effective French forces in the Gulf war and former Yugoslavia. Less than half of the new defence budget will be spent on new weapons, but none of France intended to encourage the development programmes decided before Mr Chirac was defence industry mergers in Europe so that they could face

and the United States

with an end to conscription.

Mr Lamossure said that

France could send up to 50,000

His promise followed difficul-

men to future engagements

sales, domestic cutbacks and | missile. The urgency of find- | their American rivals. He | abandoned. The programmes said nuclear policy would be include spending on four nuclear submarines, and new missiles equipped with warbased on an increasing dialogue with Britain, Germany heads tested during nuclear experiments in the Pacific. Despite plans to cut defence forces by more than a third

But other programmes are likely to be slowed down, including equipping the air force with Rafale jets and the army with Leclerc tanks. The Kuwaiti newspaper al Watan has reported that Kuwait is to buy more than \$100 million worth of British Sea Skua naval missiles in preference to French

City notebook, page 11;

World news in brief

out of PM race

INDIA'S veteran communist leader, Jyoti Basu, yesterday bowed out of the contest for the prime ministership. Last night leaders of the National Front-Left Front alliance appealed to him to reconsider. The octagenarian, who has been chief minis-ter of West Bengal for nearly 20 years, had been viewed as the eading candidate of the alliance.

The Communist Party's central committee said in a statement that the party would offer only external support to any government that did not include the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, or the rump of the Congress Party. The BJP, which emerged as the largest single party after last week's election, has said it wants to form the next government. and several Indian newspapers yesterday condemned as un-democratic efforts to keep it out.

P. V. Narasimha Rao, meanwhile, is gauging support among the left and regional parties for his possible return as prime minister. — Suzanne Goldenberg, New Delhi.

Soldiers held after road death

OFFICIALS of the British military bases in Cyprus said two Austrian United Nations peacekeepers were yesterday detained at the bases for questioning in connection with the apparent hitand-run death of a Bulgarian farm worker. Gamtchev Kirkov, aged 32, was found dead in the early hours of yesterday near the south-eastern resort town of Ayia Nana. He

bad been knocked off a bloycle. "The soldiers are being held by SBA (Sovereign Base Area) police and UN police are in attendance," said a spokesman. The soldiers, based in the Turkish-occupied town of Famarne somers, casen in the purkish-occupien town of rama-gusta, were stopped by British officers two hours after the body was found. "The windscreen of their car was smashed and it appeared to have been involved in a car accident," said Stelios Neofytou of the Cyprus police. — Reuter, Nicosia.

Food crisis worsening fast

THE FOOD crisis in North Korea is deepening faster than

expected, the United Nations warned yesterday. A six-page report by the World Food Programme and the Food A SK-page report of the worth root Programme and the root and Agriculture Organisation said most of last year's harvest had been consumed. Food stocks were very low in the country, which Japanese officials say has asked informally for food aid. "All reports from North Korea indicate widespread shortages."

in large parts of the country," the WFP said, adding that the Pyongyang government had reduced rations sharply. "The situation is likely to become considerably worse in the

ean months between May and September . . . significant com cisl imports are unlikely and there is virtually no further food assistance in the pipeline," the report added. It was made avail-able as envoys from the United States, South Korea and Japan prepared for talks in Rome on plans to bring North Korea out of isolation. — Reuter, Rome.

Investigators find engines

ACCIDENT investigators yesterday found the engines of the DC-9 that phinged into the Florida Everglades on Saturday, killing 109 people, but admitted they had no klea how to go about recovering the rest of the wreckage from the dense, alligator-infested swamp.

As divers groped their way through mud and sawgrass coated with fuel, navy sonar experts joined the hunt for the flight data recorders, which it is hoped will offer a clue to why the aircraft

filled with smoke minutes after leaving Miami for Atlanta. As the first remains of victims were taken to the Dade County medical examiner's office yesterday, the Federal Aviation Au-thority launched an intensive month-long safety investigation into ValuJet, the cut-price carrier which operated the 27-year-old plane. — Ion Kotz, New York.

Post workers strike over cuts

ABOUT 1,000 postal workers staged warning strikes in six Gernan cities yesterday to protest at deep spending cuts proposed by

Delivery of about two million pieces of mail was delayed because of the action in Munich, Stuttgart, Saarbrücken, Heidelberg, Magdeburg and Berlin, union officials said. As workers took to the streets with banners, talks resumed in

Stuttgart on a new contract for 3.3 million public service employess, including postal workers. The government has propos freezing salaries for two years, and cuts in sick pay and holiday benefits, as part of a DM25 billion squeeze. — AP, Bonn.

Extradition request refused

FRANCE said yesterday it would not extradite a French defence industrialist, Serge Dassault, aged 71, to Belgium over an alleged bribery scandal but would respond to requests from Belgian

authorities for information.
"We have signed and we will apply a convention of mutual European judicial assistance," the government spokesman, Alain Lamassoure, said after a cabinet meeting.

A judge in Liege issued an international arrest warrant last

week for Mr Dassault, chairman of Dassault Aviation, one of the country's top aircraft makers, in connection with bribes allegedly paid to Belgian government officials in 1989 to win a contract. He has denied any involvement in the affair. — Reuter, Paris.

New cabinet posts go to ANC



NELSON MANDELA (above, with the Namihian president, Sam Nujoma, who is visiting South Africa) yesterday appointed Sam Nujona, who is visiting south Africa) yester may appointed four members of the African National Congress to the cabinet, including the recently-dismissed Dr Pallo Jordan, to fill gaps left by the National Party's withdrawal from the coalition government, writes David Beresford in Johannesburg.

government, wrues David Beresjord in Johannesburg.

Dr Jordan — whose sacking in a reshuffle last month after he had reportedly clashed with President Mandela on civil rights issues, stunned many in the ANC — gets environmental affairs and tourism. Two of the 27 ministerial posts have been axed, as a signal of the government's commitment to austerity.

The other appointments are Geraldine Fraser Moleketi

(welfare and population development). Mohammed Valli Moosa (provincial affairs and constitutional development) and Pennuell Maduna (mineral and energy affairs).



Rothko stayed less than three days: he did no work in Cornwall and he never went back. His being there is what mattered

Adrian Searle visits St Ives

Arts G2 page 8



Paul Webster in Paris

BRITAIN'S embassy in the French capital is turning its courtyard and gardens into a miniature motor show today for the city's taxi drivers, in an at-tempt to get them to trade in their saloons for Londonstyle cabs.

After a five-year battle to meet French regulations and overcome the hostility of some cab companies, an almost standard LTI model made in Coventry drove to the Eiffel Tower yesterday as a prelude to the marketing operation by a British importer, David Lea. Three of the vehicles will be on display at the embassy.
As curious Parisians

gathered around the demonstration model, Mr Lea, an automobile engineer from Cardiff. said he got the idea "when a friend of mine couldn't go to a foot-ball match because no [Paris] taxis could take his wheelchair"

Because there is no simiable, 100 licences have been offered by the Paris au-thorities for owner-drivers ready to operate the vehi-cles immediately.

"The biggest advantage as far as I'm concerned is the small turning circle," a French driver said. "You can't do a quick U-turn in

my Mercedes." But he was taken aback by the Fr210,000 (£25,000) price for a basic LTL Even so, the first 150 are expected to be on the road within a year, with another 1,350 to follow before the end of the century.



Making a mark . . . A London-style taxi arrives in Paris yesterday, after a five-year battle to meet French regulations to capture a lucrative market

Ministry claims Croatia faces European snub **Russian spy**

David Hearst in Moscow and Richard Norton-Taylor

USSIA'S ministry of foreign affairs last night admitted for the first time that one of its middle-ranking officials is the spy who allegedly passed state secrets to British

A high-ranking ministry official told the Russian news agency Interfax: "To our greatest regret, there was a black sheep in the family."

The spy affair, which broke a week ago with the news that the Federal Security Service (FSB) was demanding the expulsion of nine people on the British diplomatic list in Moscow, has since lapsed into silence, amid signs that a face-saving compromise is on

In London, officials were anxious not to upset what appear to be delicate, but so far inconclusive, talks.

"Discussions are continuing," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

There is speculation that Russia may insist on fewer than half of the nine diplo-mats mentioned by the FSB being expelled immediately, with an understanding that the rest would be allowed to

stay for longer periods. Russian security sources buy weapons from an Esto-have always distinguished be-nian paramilitary organisatween those loosely involved in the affair and the British officials to whom the Russian civil servant was allegedly passing secrets when arrested last month. This left open the possibility that only those directly involved would be immediately declared persona non grata and told to leave.

After the initial loud protest and threat of retaliatory action from the Foreign Office, there has been no comment from the British embassy in Moscow, other than to say negotiations are continuing. An embassy spokes-

John Palmer in Brussels

ready left Russia. Yesterday, an unnamed for-eign ministry official spoke of the colleague now under ar-rest as though his guilt had been established. "He is quite a young man, a middle rank-ing diplomat who had good prospects for the future," he

The official added that, so far as the future was concerned, "necessary conclu-sions" would have to be drawn. He said: "We are not talking about a witch-hunt, but we are not going to pretend that nothing has

happened."
This may mean that the easy and informal access Brit-ish diplomats have enjoyed over the past five years to low-ranking Russian govern-ment officials will end.

The vulnerability of the foreign affairs ministry to political attack from the FSB and the defence ministry was said to have been lessened by the appointment of Yevgeny Pri-makov as foreign minister. Mr Primakov headed the Service of Foreign Intelligence (SVR), the successor body to the first directorate of the KGB, for four-and-a-half years his present before

appointment.

The FSB confirmed yesterday that the IRA had tried to buy weapons from an Esto-

tion and other groups. However, a spokesman said Russia had no details of ac-tual arms purchases made by

The disclosure followed a report by the Itar-Tass news agency last week that the FSB believed the IRA had bought sniper rifles, machine guns and explosives on the black

market in Estonia. The report, citing unnamed FSB sources, said the IRA bought the weapons from Kaitseliit, a paramilitary

group that is part of Estonia's defence structure. Only the prime minister or his adviser has access to man refused to confirm Estonia's ambassador to this kind of secret document whether any of the nine Russia has denied the report. It couldn't have come from a

ROATIA'S plans to join the Council of Europe seemed certain to be put on ice last night because of growing international concern about the Zagreb govern-ment's suppression of civil liberties and democracy. European Union foreign

ministers in Brussels were expected to call on the 39-country Council of Europe to reconsider the timetable for Croatia's membership, and to make it conditional on proof reversed curbs on the independent media and on elected opposition politicians.

A statement being prepared by the foreign ministers relterated their support for the goal of eventual Croatian membership, which was approved by the Council of European Parliamentary as-sembly only last month. "A precise timetable should be established as regards the undertakings entered into by Croatia with a view to its accession," the statement

EU endorsement of Cro-

atia's membership of the Zagreb, taking account of any delay might lead to a decouncil had been thought a Council of Europe recommendary in the elections in the rest formality. But European governments have been angered at President Tudinan's decision to dissolve the opposi-

tion-controlled Zagreb city year. They are also critical of the legal measures taken by the president against independent newspapers and broadcasting organisations.

dations" and a "guarantee" of "media freedom". The former Yugoslav repub lics of Macedonia and Slovenia are already members of the Council of Europe. Bosnia-Herzegovina has "special guest" status and the rump Yugoslavia — Serbia and Montenegro — has not been admitted. Russia was ac-

Ministers will work out a detailed plan to monitor Zagreb's civil liberties record

satirical weekly paper faces a three-year prison sentence for

The ministerial committee of the Council of Europe will meet in Strasbourg later this week to work out a detailed plan for monitoring Croatia's record on civil liberties. When the Croatian govern-ment applied for membership it gave 21 undertakings on human rights, including com-mitments "to pursue the procedure for electing a mayor of

The editor of one Croatian | cepted as a member in February, despite strong misgivings over its human rights record and the army's

repression in Chechenia. EU foreign ministers also agreed last night to press ahead with elections in the ethnically-divided Bosnian city of Mostar on May 31, de-spite protests by Muslims that they have been denied the right to register as voters in their home areas. "In spite of the difficulties, we want to go ahead with the Mostar

election on May 31 because

facing the Bosnia-wide election, due to be held by September 14. "The elections will not be perfect in view of the obstacles being placed in the way of refugees wishing to return home . . . but it is far better that we have imperfect elections than none at all," one EU diplomat said.

of Bosnia, and that would be a disaster." the Italian foreign minister and president of the Council of Ministers, Su-

sanna Agnelli, said last night.

The ministers were briefed

on the tense situation in Mos-tar by the EU administrator

for the city, Perez Casado. EU

governments have repeatedly

protested against actions by Croat extremists in Mostar,

who are opposed to the unifi-

The meeting in Brussels also heard of the problems

cation of the city.

The German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, flew from Brussels to Belgrade last night to persuade President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia to help turn over to the international court of justice in The Hague Bosnian Serbs

Turkish coalition in slush fund row

Alistair Bell in Ankara

SCANDAL over £4.3 million missing from a secret government slush fund yesterday rocked Turkey's conservative coalition government, already reeling from infighting after a string

of corruption charges. A cabinet member accused the prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, of trying to discredit his coalition partner, Tansu Ciller, by revealing to the press details of her use of the fund during her recent term as prime minister.

minister and a close colleague of Mrs Ciller said. Mr Yilmaz has not commented on the allegation. Turkish newspapers at the

weekend gave wide coverage to a leaked document purporting to show that Mrs Ciller had taken £4.3 million from the fund, intended mostly for shadowy security operations, a couple of weeks before she handed over power to Mr Yilmaz in March. The two conservative lead-

ers have been at loggerheads

in recent weeks over Mr Yil-

maz's backing for parliamen-

tary inquiries into corruption

charges against Mrs Ciller. An increasingly belea-

around us at Iran, Azerbaijan, Chechenia and Greece, she was quoted by the Turkish press as saying to justify her withdrawal of the cash. Mrs Ciller's True Path Party has gone to the verge of quitting the coalition twice in

third person," said Yalim | guered Mrs Ciller has ack | to set up two separate corrup Erez, the trade and industry | nowleged delving into the | tion inquiries against her. fund, but says interests of Mrs Ciller says the charges national security prevent her are an attempt to ruin her from divulging what she did with the money. She sug-gested it may have gone hopes of becoming prime minister again next year under a power-sharing deal with Mr towards the fight against Kurdish rebels, or security A security court is to invesactivities involving Turkey's tigate how the press got hold of the slush fund document,

neighbours. "Look at terrorism. Look which clearly shows Mrs Ciller vouching for the money under "secret service expenditures."

"Giving away state secrets is a crime," said Cevdet Volkan, the chief prosecutor at the Ankara state security court. But he refused to say if the court would investigate as many weeks after Mr Yilmaz's Motherland Party claims that Mr Yilmaz was be-helped the Islamist opposition hind the leak. — Reuter.

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Malay party on lonely crusade for Islam

Nick Cumming-Bruce reports from Kota Baru on a state trying to block modernising reforms

THE FILM Maria Maria nese community, because ianna may be Malaysia's "sensasi 1996", work. but pieces of cloth care-fully obliterate the faces of its glamorous women stars on promotional posters at the

Kota Baru, the capital of north-eastern Kelantan state, run by the opposition Partai Islam (Pas), shows the direction Malaysia's most conser-vative Muslims would like to take this relaxed corner of the Islamic world. Malaysia, like its larger neighbour, Indonesia, takes a

moderate approach to enforcing Islamic law, deliberately striving to balance the sensitivities of the Muslim Malay majority with those of its Chi-nese and Indian communities. Pas is more hardline. The Kelantan chief minister, Nik Aziz Nik Mat, alone of Malay-sia's political leaders, wants

to adopt as state law the Hudud, a 7th century code that prescribes cutting off the hands of thieves and stoning adulterers. He has found his way blocked by the federal Chandra Muzaffar, the Pe-nang-based chairman of the

Just World Trust, said: don't think the vast majority would see implementing penalties for criminal offence more than 750,000 Liberian the most important feature in In the meantime, Kelan-

tan's resorts catering for for-eign tourists are not allowed to sell alcohol. Traditional cultural shows, such as the A tug operator at Takoradi port yesterday said he saw the bodies of two men being that they provide opportunities for unacceptable contact between men and women. Supermarkets designate separate check-outs for men and women, and unisex hair salons are also banned.

Local Chinese politicians fulminate against a regime they say is driving away business, undermining the region's advantage of cheap labour by discouraging women from working after United Malay National wants to risk dark, and driving out the Chi- Organisation (Unmo). Pas's traditionalists.

In practice, the matter is not so clear-cut. The German garment manufacturer Putt-mann, the state's biggest foreign investor, has had no dif-ficulty in employing women on night shifts, its general manager, Jurgen Hoffman,

The Kelantanese appear guided by pragmatism as much as dogma: the separate supermarket queues are



regulation separating men and women in cinemas was dropped after local objections. The chief minister's obsession with Hudud also has a

self-interest — it appeals to block a seminar entitled rural voters, who are his main supporters. But how long he will run the state is itself in doubt. Pas's coalition partner, Semangat '46, is increasingly frustrated with the chief min-

ister's "autocratic" ways. Semangat's leader, Tunku Raza-leigh Hamzah, appears on the brink of reconciliation with Malaysia's prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad, nine abead of the convention in years after splitting from the October, it seems no one United Malay National wants to risk upsetting the

slender majority in the state assembly looks threatened. Dr Mahathir, a Muslim moderniser who is intent on industrialising Malaysia by 2020, would like nothing bet-

Speaking in Oxford last month, Dr Mahathir attacked the West for misunderstand-ing Islam and Malaysia, but also asserted that Muslims should seek guidance from the Koran and hadith (tradition) "in the context of the present world".

His tenure has seen Malay-

sia gain an Islamic bank and much as dogma: the separate university. When, in the late supermarket queues are largely ignored; women factory workers not wearing a headscarf are not censored; a best way to instil Islamic virtues is not through the law or coercion, but by building a Muslim community resilient mough to face the challenges

of a plural society."
However, he evidently feels
he is walking a domestic and
international tightrope. Muslim academics in Kuala Lumpur say the wave of Islamic revivalism in Malaysia during the 1980s appears to have lost some momentum in the economic boom of the 1990s, but conservative Muslim leaders remain influential in rural areas that provide the traditional bedrock of Umno

That is thought to be one reason why Dr Mahathir last year upset supporters by anctioning a federal rehabilitation centre which "treats" Muslims who abandon Islam.

It may also explain why sion with Hudud also has a officials first approved and strong element of political then late last month tried to "Challenging fundamentalism: questioning political and scholarly simplifications", ar-ranged by a German organi-sation, the Friederich-Naumann-Stiftung, with the Institute for Malaysian and International Studies and the National University of

Malaysia.

As jockeying for position within the ruling party starts,



Naked terror... Fighters with the Ulimo-K militia threaten captives from a rival group in Monrovia yesterday. It is violence and intimidation such as this that the refugees on ships like the Bulk Challenger are fleeing

Refugees go ashore in Ghana

Agencies in Takoradi and Abidjan

HOUSANDS of Liberian war refugees were allowed on to dry land yesterday stock the boat adequately to anable it to sail to anywhere stranded on a freighter and refused refuge in west African ports. But their landfall landfall in the Liberian canital

Nigerian freighter Bulk Challenge were allowed off the
ship in the Ghanaisn port of
Takoradi only under heavy
Takoradi only under heavy
Takoradi only under heavy

back into the port, which it them in line.

Which left Monrovia on May 5 commitments to keep these board and people have been left yesterday after taking on A third ship, the Victory in the middle of renewed eth-

repairs and resupply work was carried out.

Takoradi only under heavy military guard, and were being held in quayside tents, witnesses said.

The vessel was allowed them in line.

The vessel was allowed them in line.

The presence on the ship, which left Monrovia on May 5 in the middle of renewed eth-

power failure. Those on board were taken ashore while to the harbour in Sierra Le-repairs and resupply work one's capital, Freetown, but Commissioner for Refu was barred from docking. It is "We are doing nothing carrying Liberians and fered her organisation's help apart from this. We want to people from Sierra Leone. Aid to countries that would grant

can ports. But their landfall looked tamporary.

The 4,000 people fleeing violence in Liberia aboard the Nigerian freighter Bulk Challenge were allowed off the ship in the Ghanaian port of Takoradi only under heavy in general property foreign minister, Mothan in the Liberian capital three days to complete three days to

supplies, after it suffered a | Reefer, was yesterday | nic militia clashes in the city. | The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Sadako Ogata, yesterday ofworkers say food and water asylum to people fleeing Liberal on board has run out. on board has run out.

In the case of the Bulk Chalgovernments in the region to lenge, Ghana's authorities es open their doors to refugees.

> "Unless the door is opened to them, a lot of people, many of them women and children, will die." She said it would be "con-

refugees currently in other countries in the region — including 410,000 in Guinea, 305,000 in Ivory Coast, 15,000 in Ghana, 4,700 in Sierra Le one and 4,000 in Nigeria.

removed from the ship.

The relief group Medecins sans Frontières has a small vessel with a medical team trailing the Bulk Challenge. A spokesman for the group said that when the ship left Takoradi for the first time on Sunday night there was only enough food for one day, and water was running short. trary to basic international There is only one toilet on

Advertisement

THE MESSAGE OF THE LEADER OF THE MUSLIM UMMAH Ayatollah al-Udhma KHAMENEI ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF HAJJ 1416/1996

in the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

All praise be to Allah, the Lord of all the world, and salutations to the sayyed of the first and the last, Mohammed al Mustafa and his blessed household, and upon the Baqiyatullah fil ardheen, Imam Mahdi.

Haji (Pilgrimage), this ever-flowing fountain of piety and spirituality, goodness and blessing-shall supply the Islamic world every year. Each and every fortunate Muelian (individuals and congregations) can relate to its abundant favours and draw abundant favours and draw benefits from it in proportion to their capacities and capabilities. The pilgrims of Kabaa (baitullah al Haraa) are not the only ones who can satisfy their thirst at this bountiful fountain. If this great obligation is truly recognised and properly carried out, then all Muslim nations and individual Muslim throughout the world will be flooded by its blessing.

Harm has always come to individuals and communities from two quarters. The first which occurs from within themselves due to human weaknesses, uncontrolled desires, irresolution, lack of faith and other destructive traits. The second arising from the outside due to the oppression on mankind by enemies who are rebellious, have paranolac wishes and are of paramorac wisnes and are of aggressive and devouring nature, they make life unbearable and they make fills undearable and suppression upon it. The islamic world, both as individuals and nations, have always been exposed to these two kinds of threats. Today they are being threatened more than ever before by the beautiful propagating compution. threatened more than ever before by deliberately propagating corruption in Islamic countries, imposing Western culture on them and spread it by means of certain dependent regimes. That effects not only individual behaviours, but also influences many aspects of life from city architecture to general living conditions to radio, television and conditions to radio, television and the print media on the one hand and military, political and economic pressures on Muslim countries on the other. This is coupled with human massacres as in Lebanon, Palestine. Bosnia, Kashmere. Chechnia and Afghanistan. These are glaring examples of the two kinds of threats directed against the Muslim communities.

Muslim communities.

The pilgrimage is like an ever flowing river, divinely granted, at the banks of which Muslims may always wash from their faces the dusts of hardship and suffering pollution and and malaise and overcome the two vulnerabilities at all times. In the performance of Hajj, the elements of piety, remembrance, presence, submission and absorption in God Almighty, shall serve to remove the first threat. While the elements of togetherness, unity and felling the enormity and strength of the great Islamic unmah of which Hajj is crowning symbol, will tackle the second. The immunity and resistance of individual Muslims and Muslim seemingly Muslims relements who

In the texts of the holy shari's of Islam and in the Holy Quran, sufficient emphasis is faid upon both these aspects of Haji. There shall be no doubt whatsoever about

aspects of Hajj are strengthened.
However, if one or both become weak or extinct, then the Islamic rummah as individuals, nations and states will become more vulnerable.

In the texts of the holy shari's of

in the texts of the holy shari's of islam and in the Holy Quran, sufficient emphasis is laid upon both these aspects of Haji. There shall be no doubt whatsoever about them for those with seeing eyes and unbiased heart.

Along with the command in (2:200), "Then laud Allah as you lauded your father, rather a greater lauding, "there is an order in 19:3), "And an announcement from Allah and His Apostle to the people on the day of the greatest piligrimage that Allah and His Apostle are free from biability to the idolaters," together with the drivine wisdom explained in (22:37), "There does not reach Allah their fiesh nor their blood, but to Him is acceptable the guardian on your part, thus has He made the subservient to you that you may magnify Allah because He has guided you aright, and given good news to those who do good to others), "backed up by the hope in (22:28), "That they may witness advantages for them."

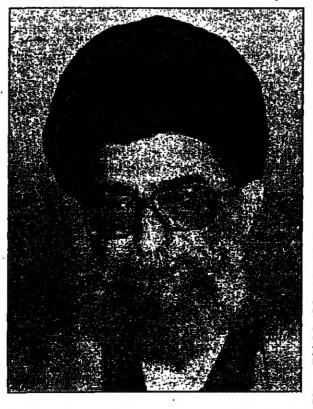
Any recommendation, propagation or endeavor in the direction of weakening or abandoning these two aspects of the pilgrimage, will undoubtedly be a confrontation with the direction of the propagation and the propagation of the numerical strength of over one than the matter of the matter of the world hustims. As fer as potentials are concerned, we must first of all, make encition of the numerical strength of over one the must call the matter of the must entitle the world that embraces some fifty countries and chillion Austims the world that embraces some fifty countries and chillion the must embraces some fifty countries and chillion

those who do good (to others), "That they may witness advantages for them."

Any recommendation, propagation or endeavor in the direction of weakening or abandoning these two aspects of the pilgrimage, will the research of the pilgrimage will undoubtedly be a continentation with the verses and injunction of the Holy Quran. There is no beavier loss to the Islamic unmanh than allowing the teachings and the guidance of Islam, which are vital, eternal, invaluable provisions for Muslims and the whole provisions for Muslims and the whole provisions for Muslims and the whole the religious, political leaders and to deprive people from their better and to exploit it more deeply for the good of the Islamic Ummah.

Today, the Islamic world is faced with certain extremely threatening problems. Muslims should strive to remove them through the power of faith, struggling, reliance on God, sublime selfiesness and with open eyes to utilize the reserved potentials deposited by the Almighty in this straight forward religion. If they do not, then their arrogant enemies who are equipped with political and military power and technology will tighten their posiponing the days of freedom and salvation in the Islamic countries. Not only for decades but for certuries. This would destroy certain countries, not only for decades but for certuries. This would destroy certain countries, not only for decades but for certuries. This would destroy certain countries of make them lost their Islamic identities due to the Imposition of corrupt componens of Western culture.

Today, after the establishment of the Samic Republic of Iran, and an Islamic reasonable of the Islamic and in Islamic reasonable of Islamic and Islamic reasonable of



Sectarian conflicts, mainly publicised and intensified by evilulams and paid writers.

Fihnic and national conflicts, emanating from chauvinistic tendencies, the fires of which are often fanned by dependent, subservient intellectuals.

Submissiveness towards interventionist powers, turning certain governance into satellite states of the big powers.

Surrendering to the corrupt culture of the West and even helping to spread it for their own political and doctrinaire purposes.

The indifference of certain governments to their own people or a single place, and that too at the scene

course of several long years. This gathering of millions of brothers and social continuing purposes.

The indifference of certain governments to their own people or iheld started of people's needs, beliefs and adpirations, and taking up despotic standards against them.

A dread of the arrogant powers, particularly of the United States, on the part of some political, cultural leaders in the Islamic region, that is the roor cause of many other difficulties.

Promoting secularism and introducing Islam as an abstract experience for the designer of Allahu Aldbar* of the first warriors of Islam, in an atmosphere charged with zikr, supplication, and the soliting to people's lines such as government, politics, economic management, etc.

These and scores of other prothems

It was on the basis of such a correct view of the significance of haji that after the triumph of the great Islamic Revolution of Iran the issue of haji came to have top priority in the international agenda of the government of the Islamic Republic. Thus this noble regime combined the religio-political aspect of this rite, a manifestation of the Divine majects and power with its depositional this rise, a manifestation of the Divine majesty and power, with its devotional aspect. A manifestation of Divine mercy and compassion, bringing the contemporary half closer to the half of early Islam. It revived the ceremony of disavowal of the polytheists (bara'sh min al-mathrikeen) in half as a symbol of this and it has pursued the observance of this Islamic duty despite all the political harassment and obstrutionist moves inspired by un Islamic motives.

As a system that has affirmed the As a system that has affirmed the life, dynamism and power of Islam in administering human societies despite the anti-Islamic propaganda and efforts of the last hundred years, the Islamic Republic views haij not as a means to further its own goals, but as a forum for the awakening of Muslims and revivification of the spirit of Godwardness and faith in the implementation of the Islamic Sharl'ah as well as the honour and independence of the world's Muslims.

Those who negate and reject the dynamic and corporehensive character of hajj are in fact against the honour and independence of Muslims and their deliverance from the bloody claws of imperialism and Zionism, any such kind of Fatwa or religious decree is tantamount to giving a ruling in violation of Cod's revelations, and it derives most probably from ignorance of the realities of the world and its environs and a lack of adequate insight mito the affairs of Muslims.

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unicognable sin.

The present weakness of Muslim states and the sorry disunity of the islamic countries cannot be concealed or denied. Today the Arab world by its own deeds placed itself in such a condition that, regrettably, it is unable to defend the Lebanese people who are victims of the crimes of the usurped its territories. While stockpiles of fighter planes and air defense equipment brought stupendous cost from Western factories exist today in these countries, the aircraft of bloodthirsty Zionists freely destroy the homes of Arab people and none of these governments is able to stop it. These bitter facts, along with the increased political influence of imperialist powers within many of these countries, as well as the unchecked offersive aimed at achieving a complete cultural invasion of these countries and many other regrettable and alarming evens are sufficient to make every sane mind and wakeful conscience realise that Islamic countries amd nations whose representatives sample is now present around the holy Kabaa and

that Islamic countries and nations whose representatives sample is now present around the holy Kabaa and other sacred premises of this land of revelation, stand more than ever before, in greater need of the spirit and spirituality of hajj and its abundant resources which it is essential for them to utilise. This is our viewpoint and thesis concerning hajj and the other delivering sacraments of stant.

power. This is a healing spring that less strength to the hearts, edifies the will and steadies the resolve, infusing confidence into the souls, broadening the visions, bringing the aspirations closer, uniting the brothers, and disappointing the devil and defeating his guite.

Yes, a true and perfect hall, a half worthy of "Tawhid", a half that is the mainspring of the low of Cod and the faithful, of the rejection of satars, idols and idolaters, such as half would first curb the growth of all problems of the slamic Republic which today is the learner of honour for Islam and vigour for Muslims and of the independence of Islam countries and their freedom from the evil of the allers.

It was on the basis of such a correct view of the significance of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured for half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top priority in the international agends of the more assured of half came to have top of the more assured to the beautif day and with the support of the beautif they are the brothers, and top the problems and to turn away this supporters in the Islamic Republic and to turn away the been the broadening town the beautif they are triumphant Islamic runs and either triumphant Islamic Iran and other triumphant Islamic countries, where they are triumphant Islamic countries, where they are strained to turn away the beautif of the assured of the support of the support of the support of the support of the more than half or that the stamic fay and the triumphant Islamic runs and ester triumphant I

resent the idolaters' (9:2)

Today with God's grace and despite the hostility and obstructionism of the malevolent, the Islamic Republic marches onwards with power, honour and a steady resolve and determination as a stable country with an accelerating pace of construction and development, with an administration that is popular and close to the masses, with a deserved presence and repute in the world, with zealous faith in Islam, with its live and dynamic youth free from the grievous problem of the youth in many other countries with a people intelligent, brave and ready to defend Islam and Iran with an expansive spirituality side by side with growth and development and ultimately, with an exemplary and rare solidarity among the citizens.

Thank God, the massive

Thank God, the massive propaganda of the enemy serves us as the indictor of our increasing power and the greatness of our people and country.

spirit and its abundant to utilise. This is our viewpoint and thesis concerning haji and the other delivering sacraments of Islam.

The provision for the rest of their lives is concerning haji and the other delivering sacraments of Islam.

It is for this very straightforward and bold stance in the defense of Islam and islamic laws that the Islamic Republic, from the very beginning has been the target of the wrath and resentment of the Imperialist powers with the US, the Big Satan at their head.

They accuse the Islamic Republic in the Islam and second the Islam and seco At the end, I call upon all the dear pilgrims to make the fullest use of the opportunity provided by these great days and I invite all of them to

I beseech God, the Esaked to grant honour to Islam and Muslims and give real independence to Islamic countries, liberating them from the political and economic domination of the imperalists. I beseech the One Lord to preserve the majesty and the glory of Islamic Iran under the shelter of the special favour and attention of the 12the Imam, Baqiyyatullah, may our soulk be his ransom.

Peace be upon all our faithful Ali al-Husayni al-Khamenei

4 Dhu al-Hijjah 1416

4 Ordibehesht 1375 23 April 1996

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Hot air from British Gas

Why should price reduction lead to job cuts?

WHICH family wouldn't welcome a £30 | tious? British Gas may complain about cut to its annual gas bill — perhaps | the regulator but Clare Spottiswoode, cut to its annual gas bill - perhaps rising to a £50 saving in future years? could cut consumer charges in half in dations would have achieved. real terms within a decade? And which The Gas Consumer Council company wouldn't complain if it had been told to cut its prices by at least 20 per cent by a regulator? But be warned. The British Gas saga is almost as labyrinthian as the 170,000 miles of pipes linking 20 million British homes to the near monopoly supplier. Competition is coming but it too could end in tears, like the privatisation which exposed the greed of British Gas directors and the incompetence of its service mainte-

nance department. Families, who on average are charged £320 annually for their gas, should get a price cut but the reduction which the regulator imposed yesterday was not on gas delivered into the home but on the charges which TransCo, British Gas's separate pipeline business, can levy on gas suppliers. There are over 15 independent suppliers now lining up to get involved in the market. Families will only benefit if the pipeline charge is passed on to the ultimate customers. Ministers might hope to win political kudos from privatisation-generated price reductions but that is to ignore the entire history of this particular privatisation: the simplistic switching of gas from a public to a private monopoly, the delay in introducing competi-tion, and the deliberate neglect of sen-Monopolies and Mergers Commission was Trade and Industry Secretary. Yestions in British Gas shares will have a knock-on effect on ministers latest privatisation plan: Railtrack. Who can blame small shareholders, the cele-

director general of Ofgas, is only trying Which government wouldn't want to to recoup some of the savings which boast about a privatisation, which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) MMC recommensurable of the savings which earlier (and ignored) which earlier (

The Gas Consumer Council was right to ask yesterday why it was taking so long to establish a proper price for the use of British Gas's monopoly pipeline system. Ms Spottiswoode, who has her fans in the media, is not without blame. Yet she was splendidly robust in dismissing the whinges of the company reminding them that other utilities were being treated even more firmly by their regulators. It was time the gas industry was given tougher targets.

Of all the responses, none was more repellent than British Gas's knee-jerk reaction that the price reduction would mean a 50 per cent cut to TransCo's 20,000 workforce. This from a company, which has already shed 23,000 workers in the last three years, seen gas consumer complaints rise to such a record level that even the boss had to apologise last September, and yet still awarded its directors a 47 per cent pay increase in March. Philip Rogerson, British Gas's deputy chairman, symbolised what is wrong with British industry in his response. Even the regulator pointed to efficiencies which did not involve job cuts. But labour is still viewed as a cost, not as an investment by British industrialists. Jefferson said it all in his First Inaugural address almost 200 years ago: tion, and the deliberate neglect of sensible recommendations from the a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one (MMC) by Michael Heseltine when he another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits terday's events with its steep reduc- of industry and improvement, shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned."

Why is this Tory doctrine, which earlier Conservative ministers embrated Sids, from becoming more cau-braced, so unacceptable today?



away. All-party talks are due in less than a month. The imminence of these events is beginning to drive a new Sir Patrick Mayhew spoke of a gathering momentum towards meaningful negotiations, and thereby elicited an interested response from the Sinn Fein sised yesterday evening. chairman. In the Irish Republic and elsewhere there is now an optimistic belief that June 10 will see all parties around the table and the beginning of substantive and long-awaited talks.

The optimists believe that in the end and polling day, the IRA will come up with a renewal of the ceasefire which broke down at Canary Wharf. Reports moving towards a ceasefire — though perhaps only after a final attack seem to confirm this interpretation. The tightening of pressures on Sinn Fein from America fits a further piece into this upbeat scenario.

Everything in the optimistic version of events, however, depends upon a restoration of the ceasefire. Yet there is no ceasefire and no guarantee that such a move would actually smoothe all other problems out of the way. It is a necessary rather than a sufficient condition. The Irish government acts as though the question of weapons decomposal (which has the backing of the strategies.

POLLING day in the Northern Ireland | British Labour Party) for parallel talks elections is only two and a half weeks | about weapons. But this is not true. The British government has not signed up and nor have the Unionists, let alone Sinn Fein, Moreover, both London and phase in the region's politics. Yesterday | the Unionists (and indeed Dublin) also require Sinn Fein to commit itself to the Mitchell Report before talks can get under way, as David Trimble re-empha-

The reality is that, however much one may wish it otherwise, Sinn Fein has shown very little commitment to a deal of this kind. Martin McGuinness's remarks on Sunday that the IRA was open to persuasion about a new cease-Sinn Fein cannot afford to stay out of fire seemed at first sight to be encouragthe talks. They argue that between now | ing. But yesterday Gerry Adams, who is not always seen as a republican hawk, cautioned against such an interpretation. Further reports added that the in the weekend press that the IRA are IRA would in any case regard any ceasefire as purely tactical. A realist has to suspect that Sinn Fein cannot and will not agree to any of the conditions. Perhaps there will be a ceasefire. but it is unlikely to be on terms so convenient to constitutional Irish nationalists. Perhaps Sinn Fein will turn up for the talks, but it seems improbable that they would then agree either to discuss decommissioning or to commit themselves to Mitchell. June 10 could be a beacon of opportunity, but we should not be blinded by its light into believing that the situation will be transformed if all sides continue to missioning has been solved by its pro- follow their existing inflexible

The ultimate great train journey Keeping to the line gets you all the way from Istanbul to Saigon

A MISSING LINK between Europe and | the Soviet Far East. But the real travel Asia was filled in yesterday when a new | ler will turn sharp right at Alma Ata, 185 mile stretch of railway joined Mashhad with Tejen. No one need feel embarrassed about consulting the map: even rough guides do not reach the Iran-Turkmenistan border. Yet this is an ship, abandoned during the Split and important connection which will develop new economic ties with the Central Asian Republics along the old Silk Road. The first train, sent on its way by the countries' two presidents, bore the name of "Pride". It will also cause excitement among those who dream of the ultimate great train journey.

Westwards lies the route through Tehran on into Turkey -- some 2,200 miles to the Bosphorus and Istanbul. Eastwards lies an equal length through Tashkent to join the Trans-Siberian at Novosibirsk. This follows the TurkSib railway, built with heroic effort and forced labour in the 1930s.

Then it is a further 3,750 miles on to

taking a mere 800 miles' journey down to Urumqi in Chinese Xinjiang. This is another missing link, planned in the honeymoon years of Sino-Soviet friendonly completed a few years ago. Even now travel experts warn that "toilets are locked for six hours and Kazakh visas can be uncertain." No real rail fanatic will be deterred by that.

The exhausted may then settle down for two days on the express to Beijing. But another right turn offers a more challenging destination - Vietnam. There is a minor problem on the Yunnan border, still only crossed by cyclo. Otherwise it is straight on down to Saigon, completing a 6,250 miles journey from Europe.

It may seem a bit of an effort, but in an uncertain world it is satisfying to keep to the line.



Letters to the Editor

A telling-off for Ofsted

CHRIS Woodhead affirms that he has authority to say what, in his view, is amiss, while having no res-

ponsibility to rectify the situation (Ofsted chief relishes

taking on political role, May

OES Jonathan Lawson of Ofsted (Letters, May 10) really expect us to believe that the passages cut from the final Ofsted report on reading just coincidentally show the exceptional problems faced by inner-city schools, but "added little of value" to the document? "Litschools, but "added little of value" to the document? "Little of value" to the Government's propaganda machine?

It is not so easy for Gillian Shephard to blame the fluence diminished while being held investigate received. schools for their pupils' fam-ily poverty or non-English-speaking backgrounds, to quote two of the deleted

Is the Office for Standards in Education from which Lawson writes, connected with the Government by any John Rothenberg.

39 The Drive

CHRIS WOODHEAD has lost all credibility as Chief Inspector if he is being forced to delete passages from his reports on schools. He should be noble enough to resign and let the Secretary of State do her own dirty work. M W Owens. 16 Allenby Grove. Bolton BL5 2AQ.

For the record

THE Loafer's piece (Review, May 10) about Jeanette Winterson moving with her

new novel to Granta Books

was full of inaccuracies. Most

are too trivial to deserve a

No one at Random House

even saw the novel, let alone

bid for it. We were not sur-

prised that Jeanette Winter-son chose to follow her editor

Frances Coady to Granta, but were very disappointed.

response, but one is not.

being held increasingly res-ponsible for the shortcomings of a profession in thrall to ucracy and governmen tal dictate. Mr Woodbead would be well advised to reflect on the extent he has been instrumen-tal in this before he loses all

> Derbyshire DE4 3RF. CHRIS Woodhead's politithoroughly discredit both him and the organisation of which he is the head. He is the puppet of a government with no intention of provid-ing the means by which educational standards can be im-

David Ainley.

Cromford, Matlock,

41 The Hill.

with raising standards in education and everything to do with diverting attention away from the Government's ap-palling record and on to the supposed failings of teachers. L A Summers. 22 Ribston Gardens, Paddock Wood, Kent TN21 6BA

THE Ofsted report has brought predictable con-demnation of trendy teaching methods, poor leadership, in-adequate teacher training and poor support from

(Labour) LEAS.

In the midst of all this outrage, no one appears to have noticed the "small miracle" which seems to have been wrought by these same vili-fied bodies in these same failing schools: at age 6+ (many of the children tested had only been in school for four or five terms) the "failure" rate in reading was 80 per cent but by age 10+ this "failure rate" had decreased to 40 per cent.

Obviously still too high, but surely a remarkable improvement and one warranting some commendation to all the teachers concerned (Dr) Francesca Garforth.

Ofsted has nothing to do N Yorks YO21 2DT.

LOOK, A GUARDIAN SUPPORTER

Jeanette Winterson has been a very important author for Cape and she continues to be so for Vintage, who publish her books in paperback. Indeed Vintage have very recently acquired the rights to The Passion, which they will publish in October. In short, we remain wholeheartedly committed to Jeanette Winterson and her work

> requires much greater de-tachment than your correspondents seem to possess.

RAJ PERSAUD has got it wrong again (Letters, May 11). He talks of "therapists with no qualification in psychology and psychiatry (and hence who work only in private practice)" compared "those who work in the to "t Hundreds of counsellors

Dan Franklin.

Jonathan Cape. 20 Vauxhall

Publishing Director,

Bridge Road, London SWIV 2SA.

Health Service for years, and a third of general practices now employ a counsellor. It is sad to see Dr Raj Persaud writing inaccurately about counselling, but at least no one could accuse this psychiatrist of having an

have worked in the National

Adam Sandelson Counsellor in NHS and private practice, . Meynell Crescent, London E9 7AS.

PLEASE keep your prejudices in check. Eve Arnold should no more be described as "one of the world's greatest women photograobers" (May 9) than Henri Cartier Bresson, for example, should be described as one of the world's greatest male photographers.

Perhaps it is some small measure of progress that the article did not appear on the Women's page. Sarah Vicary. 8 Davis Lodge, Haverstock Street, London N1 8DN.

United fans tackle Guardian

THE Guardian's football coverage has become indistinguishable from that of the tabloids. First, David Lacey argued that "Keane and Butt" were "the men to disrupt Liverpool" (United in search of the final triumph, May 9). After Manchester United's midfield strategy had done precisely that, Richard Williams (United see double but lack vision, May 13) ar-gued that such tactics were

unacceptable". Obviously, no Guardian correspondent expected United to do well this season. Quality football journalism

Phil Lee. Southport PRS.

derly 'dearer', May 9) focuses on the "pros and cons" of resi-dential and domiciliary care purely in terms of cost, and not in relation to the wishes

as possible. effective ways of providing services which older people want. There must be investment into forward-looking, look at alternative and comdential and domiciliary care. This is essential to prevent large numbers of older people

John Belcher. Chief Executive. Anchor. Fountain Court. Kidlington OX5 1NZ.

Roman emperor whose gourmand sensibilities have been offended because the lions ate the Christians a bit too quickly. To suggest that Man-chester United have any extra responsibility to entertain the watching millions ignores the often acrimonious relation-ship between the two clubs. Liverpool's interminable domination of the domestic scene in the 1980s is now being matched by United. The Liverpool players don't like this, the Liverpool manage-ment don't like it and Liver-

pool fans like it least of all. Andy Cooper. 28 Woodville Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7AH.

A new approach to old-age care

Yolder people living at home (Home care for the el-

For this to work, the focus of debate must shift to costpreventative solutions which plementary services to resihaving to move into residen-tial care against their wishes because there are no costeffective alternatives.

Oxford Spires Business Park,

OUR article on the cost of older people living at ome (Home care for the el-world war begging in the streets, and lining up for the dole whilst many of their children went hungry to school, persuaded my generation to do better. All parties of older people themselves. agreed to create a nation Research repeatedly states older people's desire to remain in their home as long paid into a National Insurance scheme and the better off amongst us were glad to top it up by a fair tax system.
We shared the bullets and bombs of war and would share the prosperity of peace. That's it, we thought. We've done our bit. But now

we seem to be a burden. If we need care in our old age then we must make new provision for it, the Government is now telling us. A generation which might not have been so prosperous or even here at all if Hitler had won the war makes us almost feel guilty for surviving it. (Rev) Gilbert J Tate.

62 Bramstead Avenue, Compton. Wolverhampton WV6 8AR.

These sisters are doing it for themselves. What about others?

May 9) that Margaret Thatcher does not inspire me in the slightest, and the same goes for those at women's leadership conferences. It is people like Margaret Thatcher, Teresa Gorman and the bosses of both spenders the bosses of both genders who are responsible for the continuing unequal position of women they cut wages, cut jobs, attack single parents and attack benefits.

The sort of power women need is the power to unite with men to change society and put an end to the oppression of women. Verity Watts.

University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN.

THE feminist movement is about a widening of privi-lege for a section of the female middle class, about winning a share of the action for that section of society for whom possessive individualism is the appropriate attitude. The of us have to power? There is guif about sisterhood can now a difference between autobe seen as paving the way for cratic power which mindthe creation of a new elite; lessly controls millions of exual solidarity as a means

to the levers of power. Above all, Natasha Walter's piece underlines the sheer nuttiness of attributing to genetic endowment attitudes that are essentially socially mediated. Woman the Network Builder is as much a gendered social construct as Man the Hunter. We can choose whether to foster cooperation or competition in our young but perhaps Walter and the women's leadership forum have finally demon-

BEING a younger woman sexual essentialism that has so far been a constant in feminist writing.

Joan Ebbrell. The Old Vicarage, Yoxford, Suffolk IP17 3EP.

> WITH feminists like Nata-sha Walter and Catherine the Great, who needs unreconstructed men? The status quo is maintained, no awkward questions are asked — even if "glittering ear-rings", "swinging steps" and occasional "smiles!" are replacing ties and stuffed shirts. "The job" still gets done (building health markets, selling arms, appropriat-ing pensions, expelling immi-grants) without the questions "how are you? how's your son?" etc interfering at all. Christine Bousfield. Lecturer in Literature,

University, Leeds LS1 3HE. to suggest that we women have as much right to power as men do. What right do any people purely for personal greed and self-aggrandisement, and power which

others. No man, or woman, is worthy of power if they trample upon people to get it. Vida Pearson. 22 Main Street Hoby, Leics LE14 3DT.

builds on the strengths, capa-bilities and potential of

Please include a full postal address and a telephone number. We may edit letters: strated the irrelevance of the shorter ones are preferred.

A fine way to avoid imprisonment

in 1994 over 22,000 people were imprisoned for non-payment of fines, representing 27 per cent of prison receptions. In a survey last summer of

prisoners in Holloway for unpaid tax or fines, 24 of the 29 who replied were on income support, and 13 had mental or physical health problems. Twenty-four had not even been legally represented at their hearing, making it less likely that the case for remitting the fine or collecting it by other means was put. Andy Brodie.

20 Cooper Avenue South, Liverpool L19 3PN.

MICHAEL Howard tries to defend record levels of imprisonment by citing the "need to protect society". Yet come, thus avoiding default and imprisonment. With state benefits, the mechanism is the Attachment of Benefits Order. Why are these procedures not used? Because magistrates' courts are subject to budgetary incentives encouraging fines to be dealt with as quickly as possible. They im-pose fines which are often too high, with unrealistic repayment levels. A defaulter serves a term in prison, which wipes the fine off the books for the magistrates' court — and it receives its bonus points. JP Penney. Gordon & Penney, Solicitors. 48 Boulevard,

Weston-super-Mare BS23 1NF.

Francisco Company

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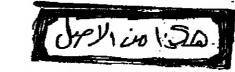
and a property

A Country Diary

CHESHIRE: The northerly air flow which has been with us for a week or more now has kepr many night-time temperatures down below 5 deg C peratures down below 5 de and sometimes even lower, resulting in the occasional ground frost. This has done nothing to improve what has been another disappointing spring for moths at the garden light trap. The appearance of usually plentiful species such as Common Quaker, Early Grey and Hebrew Character has been very poor and, for the second year in succession, both Pale Brindled Beauty and Twinspot Quaker have been absent. Day-time temperatures have had a similar effect on the appearance of the spring butterflies where I have struggled to find more than one or two of the familiar Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Comma, and I have yet to see my first Brimstone of the year. However, there were encouraging signs over the recent bank holiday weekend when two of the May species were on the wing - Orange

spring will be at the mercy of the local council's mowing programme — this species can be badly affected in its early stages by excessive trimming of roadside verges especially where its principal food plants, Ladys Smock and Garlick Mustard, grow. The Speckled Wood, which prefers woodland rides and edges where there is some shade and dappled sunlight, has a more complex life cycle which can involve overlap ping broods and in good years it may be seen from April, through the summer, into October. The cool, dry spell has also delayed nesting by the House Martins. On a recent visit to the long mere at a nearby country park, a col-league and I estimated that around 500 hirundines were hawking over the water accompanied by a lone Arctic

J M THOMPSON



Diary

HERE IS

DWARDS

LODE !

USIVE AND

IVE TALKS

BLE FRIEND

Matthew Norman

OW is it, we must ask ourselves today, that Dame Jill Knight never achieved high office? For not only is she a loyalist on all matters except eyes (her late husband was an optometrist), the Tory MP for Edgbaston also has the priceless capacity to crystallise the most complex moral and ethical issues in an instant. Take the length an instant. Take the length of time human embryos should be stored, which the standing committee dis-standing committee dis-cussed last week. Having let the others waffle on a while, Dame Jill unleashed her Dame Jill unleashed her technical supremacy. "As someone who runs a home, I must tell the committee that it is extremely dangerous to have anything in the deep freeze for as long as the regulations propose," she said, preparing to deliver the coun de grace. "To try to coup de grâce. "To iry to make a pie out of pastry that has been left in a deepfreeze for longer than six months is an extremely difficult job." Absolutely bril-liant (embryos are stored at minus 196 centigrade, by the way, in liquid nitrogen). it may even be the most sig-nificant back-bench intervention since 1982, when Harry Greenway demanded a legal definition of "the horse".

ITH the departure of the publicity-shy Christina Odone, the Catholic Herald requires a new editor, and the word is that sane and rational Paul Johnson is in the frame. Alas, we found him in one of his more choleric moods yesterday, al-though he very pointedly refused to deny it, "Tve nothing to say," he intoned when asked if he wanted the job. "No, I'm not saying anything." And then he hung up. If Paul does get the Herald editorship, let us pray that he quickly remembers Our Lord's teachings about the meek.

OE Castle writes from Manchester, asking if the Dolly Draper "who was the Labour students' 'guru' in Manchester in 1988" is the Mandy Mandelson errand boy of today. Mr Castle remembers a profane bully whom he once witnessed telling a studentunion executive that "he would one day become leader of the Labour Party". Ridiculous conceit and foul-mouthed boorishness . . . No, Mr Castle, it can't possibly be the same Dolly Draper after all.

TILL on the subject of namesakes, mean-while, a Dr David Owen (not that one) bas written from west London enclosing a page from a TV guide he found recently in a Taipei hotel bedroom. Nestling between Road To Man-dalay and Rumble Fish is a movie called "Robin Cook's Formula For Death". What with my Mandarin being so rusty. I can make out only a few words from the blurb:
"campaign bus", "over the
cliff", "whole bloody lot of
them", and "only me left". What can it all mean?

EANWHILE, Rob-in's bestest friend Gordon Brown has been taking tuition in the laws of supply and demand from a vending machine. He was seen last week in Millbank attempting to buy coffee. Having failed with his first effort (he tried to get the coffee before inserting the money), be came much closer with his second buying the 23p beverage with 20p — but still fell short. At this point, his bate became too much for him, and he adopted the ap-proach pioneered by Mr Basil Fawlty with his car (albeit without the tree branch). Only then did a passer-by point out that 23p was required, and it was not long before a pacified Gordon wandered off with his steaming polystyrene cup. Sometimes, a practical lesson in market economics can be worth 1,000 hours of theorising, don't you think?

N Automotive Magazine is a sponsored supple-ment in which a company calls for its rivals to respect the environment.
"We want to help" is the headline, and in the moving appeal beneath it is some excellent counsel: "Market the fact that you are envi-ronmentally friendly," it says, "and that you are making a real contribution towards environmental concerns." Wise counsel in-deed, and who better quali-fied to give it than Shell UK?



Beware Cassandras on the path to reform

Commentary

Hugo Young

T the weekend, John Major gave a speech to win an election. It had nothing new to say, and is unlikely to serve its purpose. For these good reasons, it was hardly reported at all. It was, none-theless, significant. What the Prime Minister chose to pitch to Scottish Conservatives was a harbinger of what he will be saying to the country in eleven months' time. It a harbunger of what he will be saying to the country in there's no question of abolisheleven months' time. It showed you the outline of his simple case: don't let Labour ruin all that we have done. It also showed what Labour has also showed what Labour has the same of t ruin all that we have done. It also showed what Labour has most to be afraid of.

At the beart of it was a mes-sage Mr Major viscerally be-lieves in. Not only Major but every Tory whose name will be in the lists. They may fight about Europe and squabble over tax and tone, but the per-fection of the British constitu-

umphantly concordant hostil-ity to what Mr Major called on Saturday, in a phrase we'll hear more of, Labour's "whole raft of constitutional

doodling".

When he talks about this as a kind of insanity, he means it. On the constitution, he's a information, say the same. Labour's past financial disasters have always been made good, they mordantly reflect, but constitutional change can

never be undone.

Against the Tories' belief that they will be fighting for everything the British hold dear, Labour offers a message fection of the British constitution is an idea on which every
dear, Labour offers a message
there hardly anyone understands.

There hardly anyone understands are occasional dissenters in Such obscurity may not preLabour constitutional pack
Labour of the British constitution and the scrutiny. I could add hunder to the five limbs of the limbs of the needs to feel some ownership of the big idea. For ministers

Scotland, who may still be mildly gripped by devolution- ist tendencies they once preached with zeal. But they've swallowed their preferences. All now show a triumphantly concordant hostil- ty to what Major solled: is mistaking the nature of its

problem.

The devil, they say, is in the detail. And the demonic ascendancy is at numerous points apparent. The more they look at the details of Scottish devolution, the more Labour leaders are compelled to admit there is no answer in logic or symmetry to the most conspicuous problem bedevil-ling it, the so-called West Lo-thian question, otherwise describable as the inequality of powers that will be available to Scottish and English MPs in respect of the governing of each others' territory. Likewise, the financial settlement that advantages Scotland over England, while acceptable in present circumstances cannot survive the creation of a tax-raising Scots parliament, yet is brushed aside as if it didn't exist.

These are just two of myriad details that Scots may have worked out to their sat-isfaction, but which have yet to pass the test of English

age, some of which are help-fully rehearsed in the first two reports of the indepen-dent Constitution Unit, the only body of work that pre-tends to prepare Labour for any kind of coherence in these matters when it gets to

The devil, however, isn't the main issue. The very exis-tence of these details, inher-ently unresolvable except by political fiat, points to the prior need for a deus ex machina: a controlling scheme for reform, sprung with con-viction on the world, which transcends petty disputes and legitimises what has to be done. Labour has hardly begun to produce this. We know the list of ideas. We know that some of them are firm promises. We have no reason to know whether national assent to them stretches anywhere beyond the vague, if settled, feeling that the Tories are a rotten lot, and that among their other crimes is the corruption of the political system.

HAT'S about the size of Labour's "constitu-tional" appeal, and it is inadequate. The only place that's different is Scotland. In Scotland there has been a long enough de-bate, carried on with due seriousness, to give weight to the majority that favours devolution. In England, that hasn't happened, whether about de-volution or Lords reform or the Bill of Rights. The practical problems engage only the tiniest fraction of voters. Even the big idea behind them has only the most fragile of constituencies.

This matters now, and will matter much more when

tions of the Lords. For the Tories to be shamed into acquiescing in the popular will rather than deploying the

must be manifest.

At present, Labour is taking it for granted. Where is the voice that will transform constitutional change from a rattled-off shopping list into a millennial project to change for the better every citizen's experience of government?

Who has the conviction to Who has the conviction to move this project from the sidelines to the centre of what Labour has to offer? Mr Blair has made a speech or two. His defence is that nobody listens to speeches, and all of wisdom must be concentrated into the two-sentence sound-bite. Closer to the truth, I think, is that the Labour leadership it-self regards these reforms, ul-timately, as having a lower priority than the replacement of a Thatcherite by a Labour-ite ascendancy.

They also say that people are not interested. Who will swing a vote, they sceptically inquire, for the sake of a second chamber most voters neither know nor care about? Self-condemnation could not be more eloquent. If the reformer can't inspire belief, be has no business starting out on a course which will in the best of times be perilous, in the worst a failure. He needs to arm himself with every weapon against the Cassandras, of whom the Tory party is beginning to mobilise a united army. It will be a national disaster, not just a government calamity, if on constitutional reform the only people with a populist message turn out to be its blazing enemies.

to push through the hard bargains it entails, they need to show they have a mandate, not least against the obstruc-£26m and win many procedural impediments against it, that will the election



Julian Critchley

HE Daily Express reports "exclusively" that the Conservative Party, of which it is so fond, has £26 million to spend be-tween now and the next election. The news has come as something of a surprise to Conservative MPs, who have been told for years that the party was broke. Was there not a second mortgage taken out a second mortgage taken out on 32 Smith Square; were not tweedy, pipe-smoking agents declared redundant. and stout parties of both sexes instructed by the whips to tighten their belts? If the rumour is true, then what on earth should we spend it all

on?
I can only suggest a new soap box for John Major, a tinting of the Deputy Prime Minister's hair (there are signs of silver threads among the gold), and a decent suit for the Chancellor, who has been making do with his younger brother's wardrobe for as long as I can remember. And the gift of a pair of hand-made shoes. How else will he be able to cut taxes?

Generous redundancy pay-ments might be made to Michael Forsyth in compensation for loss of office. Michael (El Sid) Portillo, Peter Lilley and John Red-wood will be set up in a me-nage à trois on the Brecon Beacons, and William Hague. in compensation, be given a wig just like Michael Fabricant's. In this way the party would present a new look, the past 17 years nothing but a

fragrant memory.

The news of the party's windfall has coincided with a report — so far unconfirmed — that David Evans, the Luton cuckoo, is to be responsible for raising still more money for the Tory party. Evans, who told the European Commission to "get stuffed" in the Commons last week, has all the finesse necessary to raise money from business, big and small. As the chairman of Luton Football Club, who has made £32 million out | Major looking decisive. of washing other people's Michael Heseltine disap dirty linen, he might well pointed and Virginia Bottom start to put the squeeze on the Moores family, the owners of Littlewoods, the largest private company in the country.

The Moores are a little on the that we Conservatives can be tight side, but an appear man by a stocky little man on his knees with an Arthur Mulknees with an Arthur Mulknees wild be guaranteed to melt the heart even of Lady Grantchester (who, believe it or not, is richer than Christmases.

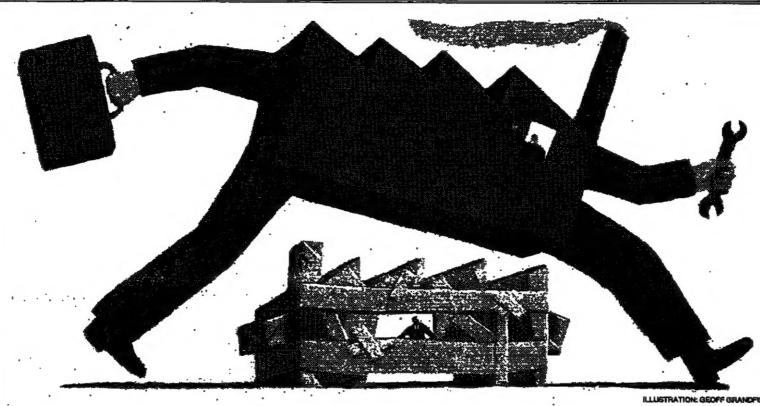
I am sure that a small pro-portion will be spent on post-Conservative MP for Aldershot

ers carrying inspiring slo-gans such as "It hurt — but wasn't it worth it? Vote Con-servative". Lady Thatcher will be sent on a trip round the world, all expenses paid, together with the against together with the ageing members of what was once her court Sir Alfred Sher-man, Lord Alistair McAlpine and Sir Gordon Reece. Dame Vera Lynn will be asked to become her lady-in-waiting. The Eurosceptics will have to be bought off. Sir Teddy Taylor will be made a Knight of the Thistle, William Cash, a course on how to make friends and influence people, and Christopher Gill, the Shropshire Meat Pie. on how to avoid catching Creutzfeld Jacob Disease. The rest of the party's Eurosceptics, who do not amount to very much, will be given Luncheon Vouchers cashable at those of

London's Italian restaurants which still employ waiters armed with phallic pepper Those of the Cabinet who were born in wedlock will be presented by Ian Lang with a Japanese motor car, a gesture that will make the point that we have become the enter-Young Conservatives will have their tattoos removed by the NHS, providing they sign a pledge not to drink Tartan Ale at their party conference. And John Major will be given an arboretum all of his very

As for the donors, no questions will be asked. The Al-Fayed Brothers will be given OBEs, and invited to John Major's Boxing Day luncheon party at Chequers. Asil Nadir will be invited to return from the rigours of exile in North-ern Cyprus and Ernest Saunders will be given back his Guinness.

lottery in this way will not go to the head of the leaders of our Great Party. We The Johnson Brothers, Frank, Paul and Boris, will be sent into internal exile at Knighton, a dull town on the Welsh/Shropshire border where pleasures are few and the opportunities to put pen to paper — save for the odd letter to the Clun Bugle — few and far between. Best of all, Central Office will burn all those posters of Margaret Thatcher looking like Jean Harlow, and substitute John



Is sacking workers to increase efficiency and profits a good thing? Yes, argues Alex Brummer, particularly as it leads to the creation of jobs in different areas

Life after downsizing

it took over former chief executive Cedric Brown's salary hike, at a time when it was busy eliminating 23,000 jobs. The company's deputy chairman, Philip Rogerson, is at it again. No sooner had the gas regulator Clare Spottiswoode announced a new price-regime for the gas pipeline offshoot TransCo than he was threat-ening another 10,000 jobs. In the changing global economy of the last decade, the immediate refuge of any corporation failing to deliver to sharehold-ers has been to "downsize". It has become the mantra which many Wall Street experts ar-gue has driven the extraordinary bull markets of the decade.

The trend has been spreading relentlessly. It is not just

perceived industrial dinosaurs such as British Gas, and IBM and BT in the technology area, which have caught the bug. NatWest Bank announces it will cut 15,000 jobs by the end of the century, and two insurers, Sun Alliance and Royal, say that the price of their 25 billion merger will be

their 26 billion merger was to 5,000 jobs.

But the long-held assumption that downsizing must be a good thing for industries — by sweeping away inefficiencies and improving productivity — is now being challenged. A great deal of the responsibility for the intellectual dispute can be laid at the door of the Republican president. door of the Republican presidential candidate. Pat Buchanan. In the best traditions of economic populism, Bu-chanan demonised IBM's boss Louis Gerstner as the person who downsized the workforce by 86,000 people in three years, while collecting remuneration which, with share options, could be worth \$60

The Buchanan intervention was among the sparks for the entry of the New York Times into the debate about downsizing and the economic inse-curity and dislocation it has not fail to invest in creative of rejection and humiliatriggered in middle America. linguistics. Nowhere now tion that a firing necessar- to re-engineering.

save John Major's political hide have been troubling the American people too.

of Richard Nixon in 1971. With the help of some creative statistical work (which has since been challenged by some economists) it suggested that since the early 1970s when Detroit began downsta-ing its cars and businesses in response to Middle-East oil embargos — some 43 million jobs have been lost in the US through downsizing.

cans fought it out on the hustings, Clinton ordered the White House group which coordinates economic policy to undertake a formal study of Even some corporate chief-

ule adjustment. Canadian corporations tell their no-

longer-needed employees that they are about to be de-

jobbed. And British Gas

may soon begin a further round of downsizing, right-sizing or re-engineering anything but telling people

that they are being fired. Euphemism is the fastest-

preaching the virtues of "corporate citizenship", the idea that companies have respon-American people too.

In February and March this year the New York Times published a seven-part series. The Downsizing Of America, which filled 25 densely typed broadsheet pages and totalled 45,000 words. It was the longest series to be published in the paper since the Pentagon Papers contributed to the fall of Pichert Nixon in 1071

The Clinton study, headed by the chairman of the Presi-dent's Council of Economic Advisers, Dr Joseph Stiglitz, is being eagerly awaited in the US and could become a key text in this autumn's election campaign. Ahead of its publication some downsizing embargos — some 43 million jobs have been lost in the US through downsizing.

The figure may have been spurious, but it was far too large for a politician as shrewd as Bill Clinton, who rode into office on the economic-insecurity ticket, to ignore. While the Republicans fought it out on the hustons who rode into ordered the

with tax incentives.

phasising. They may be told that their jobs are "not go-ing forward", or that they

expanding sector of the in-dustrial economy today. When corporations slash signed: the objective, you

land, Robert Studer, using words which have become un-

downstring, have increased their competitiveness vis-avis their rivals. Moreover, despite putting hundreds of thousands of people temporarily on the dole queues, they have been successful in bringing everyll propuler. bringing overall unemploy.

ment down and defeating the sclerosis which has over-shadowed the jobs-for-life **European and Japanese**

Anyone hoping that the upcoming White House study will definitively redefine the economic agenda by emphasising the negatives of downsizing is in for a nasty shock. The Stiglitz study has reached the conclusion that the downdownsizing, the first ever at | tains now appear to recognise | sizing of corporate America,

en de la composition La composition de la

David Rowan translates the language of the boot GENERAL Motors went are employees simply fired. By involves, in a language that the existing mechanisms are fine. He related production school today they are rationalised tral, even constructive.

Treasury Secretary, Robert Rubin, suggests that the existing mechanisms are fine. He is, of course, right. The US out of a company, outplaced from it, involuntarily severed from it, or
simply surplused.

When the Chrysler corpojobless rate, now hovering at
5.6 per cent of the workforce,
is the envy of most of G7.

Downsizing has affected al-

> have been just as eager to non-renew, to delevel, or to undergo a skill-mix adjustment. Those British Gas en- transformations of the indusgineers had better get wise

RITISH GAS has Many of the same factors tempted by a western govern-clearly learnt little (such as job insecurity) which from the drubbing have failed to produce the it took over former feel-good factor in the UK to mythology of the stump, people who have lost their jobs in the 1990s have been more quickly absorbed into familiar in UK privatised companies, argues that firms which concentrate solely on the short-term interests of shareholders could endanger could end endanger could endanger their ability to compete and even survive.

Certainly companies need to deal with their workforces sensitively. But the experience of the 1990s suggests that those economies, as in Britain and the US, where companies have rufhlessly pursued downstains have rufhlessly pursued downstains have increased in fall the new tobs created. of all the new jobs created over the past two years in the US have been in industries that pay above-average wages, such as high technol-ogy and finance, with white-collar jobs (those which have been most affected by modern corporate downsizing) experiencing net growth. In other, words, the paper-pushing clerks' jobs being eliminated by companies such as NatWest in the UK could, in a work previously done in the bank's back offices.

The Stiglitz study is provoking a ferocious debate. Robert Reich, the US Labour Secretary, is urging that ecosively tackled. But the US They may be dehired, decruited or released, and all because their company is restructuring, realigning its workforce or core-reemphasising. They may be told that their jobs are "not go tracking that their jobs are "not go tracking that their jobs are "not go tracking the phasising at their jobs are "not go tracking the phasising that their jobs are "not go tracking the phasis and profit the ph thought of another 10,000 jobs going at British Gas. But in flexible labour markets, such trial landscape can now be

(The ruling junta has turned Burma into a vast i slave labour camp in order to 'develop' .)) Post tax New Internationalist, FREEPOST SG599, PO Box 79, Hertford SG14 JYB NO-RISK TRIAL SUBSCRIPTION TES PLEASE SEND HE MY 3 FREE SISUES AND FREE MAP. If I decide LET TO CARCE, I will write and tell you within 10 days of receiving my third issue. If I wish to conduce, I need do nothins. Servine from the list of

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Billy Byers

Jazz's

horn

constant

LTHOUGH he was

never in the forefront as a virtuoso soloist.

Billy Byers, who has died

aged 69, was a widely-respected musician. He had

great natural endowments,

and was into his professional career by his early teems. He was in constant demand both as trombonist and as orches-

trator and appeared on

dozens of albums led by more

famous soloists, including Al

Cohn, Kenny Clarke, Raigh

Burns and Don Elliott.

"Billy" Byers was born m
Los Angeles, and as a 15-yearold was playing with a local
ensemble, the Hollywood Car-

teen Kids. He soon fourd

work with movie studio cr-

chestras, then took a year off

to study at Harvard before joining the army in 1944. On demobilisation a year later be

returned to Hollywood, this

time as composer of screen background music. In 1949 he

background music. In 1949 he emerged into the jazz mainstream with the big bands of George Auld and then of Buddy Rich.

After settling in New York he briefly wrote and played for Benny Goodman before moving on to the Charlie Ventura big band. Then he replaced Johnny Mandel as

replaced Johnny Mandel as staff composer, orchestrator, trombonist and occasional

pianist at the New York radio

station WMGM. In 1856 he left for Paris for

recording and movie work

but was back in New York the following year. Later he toured Europe as Quincy Jones's assistant on the Free and Easy show. In New York

he made one album under his

own name, but for the most

part he served as a sideman. One album on which he fea-

tured with organist Jimmy

Smith, The Cat, will probably

be remembered as it became a

Nnamdi Azikiwe

Odyssey of the new Nigeria

pendent Nigeria. Three things the political opponents of Zik — as he was always known — did not do was doubt his efficacious charm; dispute his claim as herald of Nigerian nationalism; or argue about his politi-

But in his time he had a mixed press — "six feet of wisdom, six feet of stupidity". He was described as a triba-list, agitator, dictator, charlatan and worse; though he was also fondly called saviour. patriot, teacher, lion of Af-

rica, and more. When, in 1937, Azikiwe returned home to found his first newspaper — the West African Pilot — colonial rule was at its height, the district officer infallible and the European roadmaker was held in awe. Azikiwe said this was a myth; he argued that the African need not be the inferior of any other man, that all that held him in subjugation was ignorance, pov-erty and disease. His own string of degrees showed that railway technician from Onit-the African too could "learn sha, and Rachel Ogbenyeanu. the African too could "learn book". He spread the gospei that the Nigerian had no reason to turn the other cheek. And he gave the British such a drubbing that, overnight, he became "the saviour". It was the beginning of Nigeria's beginning.

Azikiwe was an orator who could sway the multitude. Give him any crowd for 30 minutes and they all would be of them permanently. Once in 1946 he went to a mass meeting with a text, "the penalty of leadership", and a bundle of leaflets in which were printed gospel songs and spirituals. He spoke with visible

R NNAMDI Azi- | Body. When the lecture was | the Port of Lagos and stowed | over his listeners poured into away.

the streets snat on Europe Soon after the ship left Lathe streets, spat on Europe-ans, beat up Azikiwe's politians, beat up Azikiwe's politi-cal opponents, and filled the ered and put off at Accra. He buses and mammy wagons with music. But Azikiwe was more than

> him, politics was a science and an art. As a legislator he knew his standing orders inside out; as a parliamentarian he had few rivals. While the Foster-Sutton Commission investigated his conduct in con-nection with his African Continental Bank, he dealt out secret documents hardly material to the issue, but good enough to convince the people that he was the victim of persecution. When the Commission had found against him, he confidently ordered a general election in the east. where he was premier, and secured a vote of confidence.

Azikiwe was born in Zungeru, northern Nigeria, into a world dominated by the British Empire, less than four years after the passing of Queen Victoria. He was the son of the late Obededom Chukwuemeka Azikiwa. a (In 1936 he married an Onitsha chief's daughter.) He received his early education at the Church Missionary Society Central School, Onli-sha; the Hope Waddell Train-ing Institute, Calabar; and the Methodist Boys' High School. Lagos, where he first met his Yoruba contemporaries.

When he left school he worked with the treasury as a eating out of his hand, some clerk. Then, in 1924, he attended a lecture by Dr Kweggir Aggrey and resolved to study in the United States some day. But although Zik's father came from a respect-able family he was not prosemotion and at appropriate to dissuade the young man. Intervals led his listeners in He struck up friendships with God Moves In A Mysterious sailors on some of the cargo

wandered around at first aimlessly, but subsequently a colourful mob-rouser. To Force as a constable. Then he returned to Nigeria and ap-pealed to his father. He wrote in his 1971 autobiography My Odysser that when, soon after-wards, he left for Britain. he had £300 in his pocket, all that his father could raise or

borrow. Azikiwe's American career was no less chequered. Often short of money and battling against discrimination — which made him an ineradicable opponent of racism he once attempted suicide by throwing himself across a rail track. However, by whatever he could raise during vacations, he paid his way through Storer College at Harper's Ferry among a number of other black institu-tions. The University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University followed. He taught political science in Lincoln University to qualify as a professor, and as MA and MSc be returned to Africa in

became editor-in-chief of the Accra African Morning Post and began scent Africa, giving impetus to political agitation. In 1934 he was sentenced to a term of six months and £50 fine for a seditious article he had printed, "Has the African a god?" but he escaped prison on a technical point. Later that year Zik returned to Nigeria to found the West African Pilot and he remained managing director for nearly 30 years. He spent the following decade as a newspaperman — including a spell as Reuter's correspondent —

and political pamphleteer.

N THE same year he

From 1944, his base was secure as general secretary of the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons and after 1946 he remained its president until 1960.

In 1948 he was invited to join the Foot Commission for Nigerianisation of the civil service and became the then legislative council of Nigeria. In 1947 he had already led his party's delegation to Britain to ask for a date for self-government. He was told by the then Labour Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mr Creech-Jones to "go home and co-operate", but a year later the 1945 Richards Constitution, which he had opposed, was already being reviewed.
In 1953, he was member of the Western House of Assem-

bly, resigning in 1954 to be-come member of the Eastern House of Assembly and premier of the region. Finally, he chaired the Senate of Federation in 1960 and became Governor-General and Command-er-in-Chief of Nigeria 1960-1963; then the first President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria until 1966. When the military forced him out of power and into memoirs and poetry, he retained his uni-versity chancellorships for most of the 1960s and 1970s, though two of his books, Milltary Revolution in Nigeria Military Vigilance (1974), reflected the economic turmoil and waning liberal optimism in the new west Africa which he had done so much to shape. The tragic Biafra secession evoked from him a

War Soliloquies (1976). Other fellow-Ibos had different soliloquies about Azikiwe's tergiversation over Biafra: first advising the secessionist General Ojukwu, writing the Biafrans' national anthem, and publicising their

second volume of poems: Ciril



Understanding the art and science of politics . . Nnamdi Azikiwe

Nigeria and recommending repudiation of Ojukwu. Even into his eighties Zik remained politically active. In 1983-84 he joined his old rival Chief Obsfemi Awolowo of the Unity Party, and Wole Soyinka, Ni-geria's political prisoner and future winner of the Nobel prize for literature, to excoriate the gerrymandering and thuggery associated with Pres-ident Shagari's National Party of Nigeria. It was another about-turn, for he had made an alliance with Shagari four

years previously.

Zik's farewell letter to his presidential successor was a

a year later negotiating peace | ing extensively from the Bible, | terms with General Gowon of the Koran, and American poets, and calling upon President Shagari to live up to his oath of office and "not allow his heart to be hardened like Pharaoh who did not budge in his decision to flout all the laws of decency and impose a dictatorship of Israel." But in modern Nigeria, as elsewhere. the spoken and written word of an educated man could no longer win arguments.

An athlete in his youth, Zik retreated from public life. He would have been good enough leaves several children. would have been good enough to represent the British team for the 1936 Berlin Olympics. but for his black skin. As a gesture at the time. he renounced his christened

single-minded determination.

She had a distinctive style of reporting which viewers no-

ticed and remembered. But

Daisy, 18 and Michael, 15, in Camden Town. By carefully managing her working hours

sional journalist, a very car-

ing parent and an active resi-

dent in a neighbourhood

which included Alan Bennett and Jonathan Miller.

A quarter of a mile up the road are the offices of the

radio station, Classic FM, and

on days off she would walk

there to present music pro-

grammes with the same pro-

fessionalism which she

brought to news reporting.

She also wrote short stories

and studied natural history.

Her wide circle of friends

included not just colleagues and residents, but a whole

range of people she met reporting the news. She was on first name terms with High

Court judges and pop stars.

She cared passionately about the facts in a story. A few months ago she had an exclusive on a development in

the Princess of Wales's legal

tussle with the manager of a

gym where the princess had been photographed. Official

sources were challenging her

version but Joan's sources were so strong she never had

any doubt about the story. She also cared about the

people in the news. In 1987 she brought me the work of

an autistic boy, Stephen Wil-

paintings from memory. At

her suggestion she took

politics and foreign affairs.

motherhood. She lived with ish television news.

she was able to be a profes- Jon Snow writes Joan and I

He remained keenly interested in sport, holding offices such as president of the La-gos Football Association, vice-chairman of the Nigerian Boxing Board of Con-trol, president of the Nigerian Amateur Athletic Association, and a member of the Nigerian Olympic Committee. His own recreations were lawn tennis and playing

the piano to his family. After his wife Flora died he

Christopher Driver

were founding operatives of

commercial radio station. She

iournalist and tutored many

alternative news bulletins on

We envied her experience

and her unforgettable by-line

woman working in the male dominated world of television

news, she was very much a

rarity. It was no easy ride,

constantly asked about her

hair, her clothes, her voice, she just worked her way through it.

stories and was endlessly dependable; she was always

there to do the story when others had either refused it or failed to find it — hence her

greatest tribute to her that she survived and prospered in

television news when so many

other women found themselves sidelined. And

parent she managed to nurture two young children

to their teenage years. Our

to her for.

thoughts must be with Daisy and Michael. Many women

now working in television news have much to be grateful

Joan Thirkettle, journalist, born

beyond it all, as a single

prolific output. It's the

She broke many of her own

that travelled so memorably

In the mid-1970s, as a

LBC. Britain's first legal

arrived already a proper

of us in what we were supposed to do. She and I read

15 hour shifts.

to News at Ten.

cult recording. Billy Byers was an admirably thorough professional able to cope with more or less Nnamdi (Benjamin) Azikiwe born November 16, 1904; died any musical contingency. There are a great many worse things to be.

In 22 years of reporting in British television news Joan carved out her own role with Bill (William Mitchell) Byers, professionalism and integmusician, born May 1, 1927; died she was also determined to rity. She had become part of combine her career with the fabric of ITN and of Brit-May 1, 1996

Birthdays

Francesca Annis, actress, 51 Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, former president of Malawi, 91; Chay Blyth, yachtsman, 56; Jack Bruce, rock singer, bassist, com-poser, 53; Alec Dankworth, jazz bassist, 36; Phil Drabble, naturalist and broadcaster. 82; Helen Field, opera singer. 45; Emma Forbes, children's television presenter, 32; Bar-oness (Sarah) Hogg, econo-mist, former bead of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit, 50; Peter Kirsten, cricketer, 41; Geoffrey Lister, chief executive, Bradford and Bingley Building Society, 59; George Lucas, film director and pro-ducer, 52; Lord McAlpine, former deputy chairman. Conservative Party, 54; Canon John Oates, rector, St Bride's, Pleet Street, 66; Sian Phillips, actress, 62; Sir Adam Ridley, executive director, Hambros Bank, 54; Leslie Sharp, chief consta-ble, Strathclyde, 60; Patricia Turner, GMB trades unionist. 69; Franjo Tudjman, president of Croatia, 74; Adriame Uziell-Hamilton, circuit judge, 64; Bob Woolmer, cricket coach, 47,

Death Notices

ers can be made to work over

the Infobahn. Geller's new

Joan Thirkettle

Newsmaker and news breaker

Thirkettle, who has died aged 48, was a familiar figure. She was the reporter standing outside the High Court in the wind and the rain reporting on the progress of the Birmingham Six's appeal, covering Richard Branson's ballooning adventures and, from time to time, would come up with the most extraordinary scoop.

In 1990 when Salman Rushdie first learnt the full implications of the Iranian fatwa there was great competition between journalists to obtain the first news interview. Many high profile broadcasters believed they had the inside track. In fact it was Joan Thirkettle who proudly informed her news-desk that Rushdie would be arriving at the ITN building in the morning to give her the first interview. There were still some sceptics on the reporters desk when amidst extraordinary security. Rushdie duly arrived on time and sat down to be interviewed by Joan.

Joan Thirkettle was educated at Hurst Primary

*O THE seven million | School — both in Bexley-regular viewers of heath, Kent. From London News at Ten. Joan University she joined Associated Rediffusion. London's first fTV station as a trainee researcher. Every week Rediffusion's studios in Kingsway were the focus for a classic piece of 1960s London — the transmission of Ready. Strady, Go. Joan got to meet the pop stars and fashion designers of the day and a young record plugger, Richard Branson Later, as an ITN raporter. she covered his trans-oceanic balloon and speedboat challenges and his

ousiness activities. She went on to work in mainstream journalism on the Daily Mail and then in 1969 as a property and business writer on the Sunday Times. Three years in radio with BBC Radio and British Forces Broadcasting gave her the necessary grounding to become a founding producer of London Broadcasting Company (LBC) in 1973. She pro-duced the station's two hour lunchtime news programme and met colleagues like Jon Snow and Carol Barnes who, with her, moved to Independent Television News.
Throughout her 22 years at

School and Bexley High ITN she was a general repor-

Scoop . . . Thirkettle was the first to interview Salman Rushdie after the Iranian fatwa 🕬 ter with specialisms, though never a specialist correspondent. She loved reporting the law, and in recent years had

law, and in recent years had taken a particular interest in the Birmingham Six's appeal. She covered many stories taken to hospital in London about health and the arts. Like the very best of the top the right choice to send to St

came in that the Labour leader John Smith had been

Bartholomew's Hospital. From there she reported live into an unscheduled news programme that was to win the Royal Television Society Award.

The common factor in the more than 1.500 news stories she covered for ITN was

Stephen to New York where he drew the whole of the Manhattan skyline in a single sketch. He went on to a promising career as an artist.

you're smoking, you're acutely present to yourself; you step outside the unconcious forward rush of life. That is why the condemned are allowed a final cigarette, this is why (or so the story goes) gentlemen in evening dress stood puffing at the rail as the Titanic went down . . . Jonathan Franzen lights up in

the New Yorker Matched words



In preparation for the European championships, FourFourTwo gave a list of slang. Jackdaw picks a few of

spogliatoi. It's an early shower for you. German: Es geht hin und her. This is real end to end stuff. Dutch: Je zult er nooit alleen voor staan. You'll never walk alone.

referee! Referee French: Ho hisse . . . encule Equivalent to 'You're

Scottish: Mon tae f * * k

* * t . . . aaaaah' when a keeper takes a goal-kick.) Cyberspoons

Bored of the 14 million to one

chance of winning the lottery but still desperate for the cash? Jackdaw finds another method courtesy of Fortean Times. Uri Geller last month announced his latest challenge to the world's psychokinetics bend a spoon over the Internet and win \$1 million. This is believed to be the first attempt to test whether psychic pow-

challenge uses a "live" Inter-net video image of a spoon inside a see through safe in his Berkshire home. Would be spoon-benders abould point Italian: E stata mandato negli their browsers at "Uri Geller's Psychic City" (http:// www.urigeller.com) and con-centrate on trying to bend the spoon: stress gauges on the spoon will register any movement of more than five degrees. If the spoon bends, anyone who is logged on at the time will be invited to put on a repeat performance in front of Geller himself, and David Berglas, President of the Magic Circle, along with representatives of Broadsystem. the event's sponsors, and Cornhill, who have insured the spoon for \$1 million against being bent.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email jockdav @guardian-.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR SER

Emily Sheffield

Jackdaw

Armageddon

THE mid-morning radio news reports an odd outbreak of a respiratory disease on the fringes of London. It rap-idly becomes the top news story, first locally then nationally, as more cases show up during the afternoon. Hun-dreds of people turn up at hospitals across the city gasping for breath. Doctors begin to suspect, and quickly con-firm, that the bizarre disease is anthrax. An extended evening bulletin gives it saturation coverage. Experts from the department of health try to figure out where the spores came from and which direc-tion they are spreading. It all

takes time — time they don't have. Rumours are rife that antibiotics have run out. The authorities caution againstpanic. You know that you and your family have been exposed . . . Robert Taylor in New

Scientist imagines London under attack from terrorists using biological weapons.

Brick work

THROWING food dye at the work that represented the most visible public response The Bricks were withdrawn. Andrew Nairne climbing over longtime controversy and Take Gallery star Carl Andre in

Sheep shag

I GATHER from a farming friend that in the wonderful world of sheep, the business of procreation is known as tupping. Furthermore, it transpires that, in order to confirm that Mr Prize Ram has indeed had his tuppence worth with sufficient ladies formed into a sort of woolly

medallion man with the aid of a large, leaking, paint-filled sack hung on a chain round his neck. The farmer can then identify, thanks to a large blob of resultant paint on the rump, which of the ladies has been, er, stepping out with, and those he hasn't taken a shine to. Armed with this knowledge, then, and help-less with laughter, I can hardly be blamed for driving clean off the road when I caught sight of one particularly perplexed ewe running about with a bright red fore Anthony French-Constant on

life down on the form, for Sunday Express readers Silicone history

SILICONE may have found its way into the breasts of comen as early as the mid-1940s. In the aftermath of World War II, transformer coolant made of silicone was suddenly disappearing from the docks of Yokohama Harbour in Japan. The silicone fluid was used to enlarge the small breasts of Asian prostitutes, who knew that a more

Western appearance would enhance their appeal to American serviceman. Large doses of the doctored industrial fluids were injected directly into their breasts. To prevent silicone from migrat ing into the body, the Japanese added cottonseed or olive oil to cause immediate scarring, a way to contain the silicone at the site of the injection. The practice travelled immediately to Nevada, Cali-fornia, and Texas, where many exotic dancers sought out the procedure. Predictably horror stories abounded Accidental injection of sili-cone into the bloodstream could result, albeit infrequently, in blindness and even death. Many women suffered gangrene, pneumonia, massive infection, and collapsed lungs. In some cases, silicone migrated to other parts of the body, accummulating in large lumps. Some-times, the lumps could be surgically removed. In other cases, however, surgeons found it impossible to excise them without undue disfig-urement. Sometimes, surgeons had to perform

Eventually, Nevada enacted emergency legislation making silicone injections a felony and California passed a law making silicone breast injections a misdemeanour. Ms catches up with the breast implanters in an extract from John A Byrne's Informed consent: A Story of Personal Trag-edy and Corporate Betruyal. . . Inside the Silicone Broast implant Crisis.

Last smokes AMONG the anxieties best suited to containment by cig-arettes is, paradoxically, thefear of dying. What serious smoker basn't felt the surge of panic at the thought of lung cancer and immediately lighted up to beat the panic down?...Death is a severing of the connection between self and world, and, since the self can't imagine not exist-ing, perhaps what's really scary about the prospect of dying is not the extinguishment of my consciousness but the extinguishment of the world ... Time stops for the duration of a cigarette; when

Take an early shower

Finance Guardian

Black day for a million Sids Consumer's ally

Get-tough rules cut gas payouts

Nicholas Bannister

g fast

agines

Over cuts

trefused

:s go to AN

RITISH Gas share holders were last bracing themselves for huge dividend cuts and the prospect of a pitched fight with its regulator at the MMC over a tough new system of price controls.

Labour also attacked the gas regulator, claiming that yesterday's hard-hitting review had been delayed for a week so as not to frighten off investors from next week's Railtrack flotation. The claim was denied by Ofgas, which said delays were due to complexities and late changes to the two-volume document.

British Gas refused to be drawn on its dividend plans for small shareholders — the 1.7 million so-called Sids and big investors. But the City was convinced new price controls on the TransCo pipelines business will force Brit-ish Gas to chop payouts by between 25 and 50 per cent.

The company insisted that the Ofgas proposals, to cut prices by between 20 and 28 per cent next year and peg them at 5 percentage points below inflation for the following four years, repre-sented "a black day for Sid".

But Ofgas director general Clare Spottiswoode said the privatised company was over-reacting, and pointed out that shareholders had enjoyed a return of 8 per cent in the 10 years since privatisation. That figure is likely to be cut to between 6.5 and 7 per cent a year under her plans. She warned the company

that it could end up with an even tougher deal if it forced her to refer the issue to the Monopolies Commission:

The MMC

Nicholas Bunnister

TILITY privatisation is in

a mess, and not for the first time the poisoned chal-

ice is likely to be passed to the

Monopolies Commission. The MMC could this summer be

most intractable disputes be-tween privatised industries

and regulators. British Gas

and British Telecom each ex-pect to be in front of the com-

mission within months.

Commission faces double

difficulty from the utilities

The timing could hardly be worse. The Government has twice in recent years ignored sion will have examine both

the advice of the commission, companies in great detail.

"We have been more gener-ous to shareholders than any of the other utilities' regulators have been, "she said, "Al-though it may appear today that we have been draconian to them, we have in fact been quite generous." Labour's transport spokesman Brian Wilson called for

an inquiry into the delays in producing the Ofgas report. It was a reminder of the effects of regulatory intervention in a privatised utility, and could have influenced potential investors who had to week, ahead of next week's float. "This is a message that Ministers didn't want to emerge at the most sensitive moment in the Railtrack sell-

off," he said. Some City institutions were concerned about the impact on confidence. "It would be unfortunate if one had a series of these quite dramatic announcements," said one City source. "The long-term investor needs to have some degree of certaint." degree of certainty."
While everyone accepted

bly subject to regulator interference, the problem would be if Ofgas changed the rules "so sharply and so frequently" that shareholders and cuswas going on.

Heavy energy users in in-dustry — who could see their bills cut by up to 260,0000 a year — welcomed the propos-als. The Energy Intensive User Group, which includes the cement, chemical, and iron and steel industries, said the proposals would redress the balance between customers and shareholders. It added that its members had made "an excessive contribuserved profitability".

once over an 18-month review

of the gas industry and in

recent weeks over its advice

on vertical integration in the

electricity industry.
British Gas and BT are

threatening to force MMC in-

vestigations if they cannot

persuade their regulators to water down price controls.

hudge and the companies de-

cide to tough it out, the con-

flicts have to be referred to

Commission investigations take months of work and tie up the management of the

ordinate amounts of time. To

the commission.

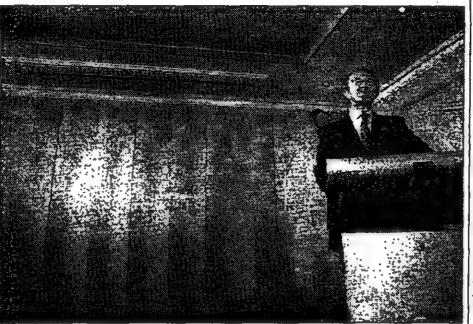
if the regulators refuse to



Going . . . Someone's bit the wrong switch



Going . . . The screen begins to wind up



Gone . . . Philip Rogerson looks bemused

Controversy follows the DTI's strong woman at centre of row

Profile

Michales Bannister

CLARE Spottiswoode's appointment as direc-tor general of Ofgas in 1993 shocked and baffled British Gas. The former middle-ranking civil servant had left the Treasury to raise a family. Her experience of business was limited to starting and selling two small businesses — one im-porting silks and knickknacks from Thailand, the other seiling computer soft-

If British Gas thought it was in for a gentle ride following the bitter squabbling with her predecessor, Sir James McKinnon, it was quickly disabused. Ms Spottiswoode is a de-

termined advocate of competition and is thought to favour the free market views of Friedrich Hayek. the economist.

To bring about her vision of competition throughout the gas industry, she delib-erately decided to work much more closely with the DTI than any of the other utility regulators.

Born in Lancashire in 1953, she attended 11 schools — as her father travelled abroad — before ending up at Cheltenham Ladies' College. She left with an impressive clutch of A levels in maths, applied moths further maths plied maths, further maths and physics, and went on to become one of the first female undergraduates at

Clare College, Cambridge. She switched from a naths scholarship to economics, and managed an upper second despite distractions including rowing and theatre.

followed by three at the pears to be a case of regula-tion gone mad.

Everyone expected a tough ness School before bursting on to the public stage as the financial engineering

She was soon plunged into controversy — having to apologise for giving inac curate evidence to a Com-mons select committee and being forced to deny having had an affair with the DTI official who had recommended her for the DTI job

Then at the height of the public outcry about the salaries paid to British Gas directors she demanded a whacking salary increase — to £110,000. She claimed she could earn £250,000 in the private sector. In the

can injure others



Edited by Alex Brummer

F ALL Britain's priva-Clissed utilities, the one least likely to evoke public sympathy is British Gas. Under the chairmanship of Richard Giordano it tramrights of its workforce; it crushed a small shareholders' revolt with scant sensitivity to the feelings of the Sids; management has looked after itself greedily and has been sloppy in its handling of coh-

This public relations debacle has not been assisted by the company's decision, in the face of the Ofgas ruling on TransCo prices, to reach for the ejector button and put a further 10,000 jobs on the line. Despite all of these errors. this time around British Gas does appear to have some right on its side. The least any management can be expected to ask for is a stable regulatory regime which allows it to engage in long-term planning. This has been absent from the

regulation of British Gas.
It endured the radical regulation of James McKinnon, who at one point wanted to break the company up into at least 13 separate entities; two Monopolies Commission inquiries; the political interference of Michael Heseltine who speeded up the MMC timetable to the point at which it makes no sense, and now it has Ms Spottiswoode wanting to return to some of the MMC ideas.

The proposals to claw back depreciation on pre-1992 as-sets and to cut back the asset value of the company from £17 billion to £9-11 billion, ap-

price review for TransCo and that is absolutely right. But which has accompanied this makes no sense. It is this more than anything which ent British Gas shares tumbling on the stock market. The cloud of regulatory uncertainty has darkened again

with the prospect of yet an-other MMC inquiry. Ms Spottiswoode may have set out to be the consumers friend but in the process has jeopardised other stakehold-

Matra target

—UROPE'S piecemeal restructuring of its de-fence industry has taken a small, if belated, step for ward with the planned merg-er of British Aerospace and Matra's missile businesses. For those who think a £1 billion-a-year business can hardly be small, compare it with America's Lockhead Martin where annual sales A rather bigger step would dère, to acquire a controlling stake in Thomson CSF — especially if, as Matra was suggesting yesterday, it did so with the backing of BAe, GEC

That, however, might be a lot of ducks to line up in a single row. The snag with try-ing to assemble a European defence industry capable of meeting the US heavyweights head on is that so many entrenched interests are inrolved

National pride, military prejudice and government ownership stand in the way of

straight takeover bids.

The defence contractors, sware of commercial imperatives, are beginning to feel their way towards a solution by ways ranging from joint ventures in defined business areas to co-operation on specific projects, but at a pace which can hardly be de-

scribed as rapid. Privatisation, declining de-fence budgets and increasing research and development costs should, over time, how-ever erode the barriers to restructuring through acqui-sition. The risk must be that, by the time that happens, the tangled web of joint ventures, cross shareholdings and the like now being put in place may prove another barrier to a radical solution to the industry's problems of declining orders and increased com-

Standard skill

POLICYHOLDERS at Standard Life can but admire the skill of the fund managers guarding their interests. A decade-long investment in their near neighbour in Edinburgh, the Bank of Scotland, has been turned from £155 million into a stake worth £900 million.

The life company appears to be taking advantage of the buoyancy in financial sector shares, in the face of intense merger activity, to divest itment it will almost certainly seek to place the shares, a allow the whole 32.2 per cent holding to fall into unfriendly

There is still some linger ing interest for Standard in the Bank of Scotland connection, in that its neighbour is a distribution outlet for its fied products. Although it is possible to argue that armed with the £900 million it will receive from the sale Standard Life will have the kind of war chest necessary to absorb one of its smaller Scottish mutual competitors or move into bancassurance by acquiring a building society or two, dis-tribution even for the aristocrats of the business has become tougher following the pensions mis-selling scandal. As for the Bank of Scotland. it might seem like a tasty

morse) as the rise in its shares signals. But, its flirta-Australia might be seen by some as a poison pill. Moreover, any bank which already operates on a 52 per cent cost to income ratio (15 per cent better than English rivals) is not likely to offer much in the way of savings to a bidder.

Don't you just hate not being in control?

Outlook

O MATTER how many spin doctors British Gas employs, it always seems to trip up. Yesterday was no

With directors in the throes of one of the fiercest ever pubtor, someone inadvertently tains in the darkened presentation room swung open and the screen summary of their combative arguments disappeared slowly into the ceiling.

Deputy chairman Philip Rosector, and it took ministers gerson could only ask for ornly if it were not a case of game, set and match. He knows it is not. The

battle with Ofgas over price controls looks set to be de-cided at the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. It would be a brave punter who bet on the company winning Privatised 10 years ago. British Gas has seen its cosy monopoly — serving 19 mil-lion domestic customers plus industrial and commercial

years of £24.5 billion.

Britain's cumulative invest

ment is now second only to Japan, which has invested £47

billion in the same period and

more than twice as much as any other European country.

ment approvals in 1995 to In-

clients — destroyed.

The Government merely

has been lumbering.

crassness of their original de-sign. In the three years since the Government decided to hunge for liberalisation, the company has been in a state of flux. Even if BG had been fleet of foot, it would have found such circumstances hard to control British Gas The question is: can it com-plete the centrepiece of its

seven years to admit the

survival plan, demerger into two businesses?

For the Government, there more.

must be growing doubt that Part of the demerger logic is

tition across the market can be achieved by April 1998. Yesterday's review appears to strike at the grand plan to create a UR pipelines and in-ternational exploration and production business— TransCo International - and

plans to introduce full compe-

domestic supply company

British Gas Energy (BGE).

For a start, Ofgas has questioned the value of TransCo assets, suggesting 29 billion, not the £17 billion BG claims. Optimistic analysts predict a cut of 25 per cent in TransCo's prices. Most think it will be

to separate profitable TransCo from British Gas's liabilities on long-term "take or pay" contracts, mostly signed when BG enjoyed a monopoly. Since then competition has

taken a chunk out of the industrial and commercial markets, and begun to eat into the domestic market, while gas prices have tumbled. The company has huge amounts of expensive gas it cannot sell. It is asking producers to renegotiate the contracts.

Until they do — or a gas interconnector to the Continent allows some of the surplus to be sold — BGE looks a leaky vessel.



KipperWilliams British

Investors ignore abuses and dive into Indonesia

John Aglionby in Jakarta

RITISH companies are increasingly turning a blind eye to Indonesia's human rights abuses in order to invest in the country's flourishing, if overheating, economy, figures announced yesterday reveal.

Last year, British direct investment approvals in Indo-TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 1.8375 France 7.80
Austra 1585 Germany 2.2590
Belgium 46.28 Greece 362.00
Canada 2.03 Hong Kong 11.44 India 53.44

Norway 9.74 Portuge! 232.75 Turkey 11,1992, Saudi Arabia 5.66 USA 1.4825

donesia were valued at almost Italy 2,327 Singapore 2,0835 Malta 0,5400 South Africa 6,38 Netherlands 2,5225 More Zealand 2,14 Sweden 10,1750

nesia soared to a record £9.5 | £60 billion. In the first four month, three unarmed stubilion, compared with total months of this year, they dents, demonstrating against a ing economic growth. Politics have exceeded £26.5 billion, a bus fare rise, were killed when comes later, if at all." 38.8 per cent increase on the same period last year. Leading British investors in Indonesia include BP, ICI, and RTZ Mining. The latter

has a 40 per cent stake in PT Freeport, the Indonesian branch of the American min-ing giant Freeport McMoRan. Although PT Freeport received a favourable envi-ronmental audit last month, human rights abuses and enrironmental degradation. The soaring British invest-

bus fare rise, were killed when soldiers rampaged through their campus in the South Sulawesi town of Ujungpandang. Twelve soldiers are to be court martialled for "responding excessively".

Also last month, three sol-

2% years in prison for killing four East Javanese villagers in 1994 during a protest against land appropriation. And local residents, nationtribes of people living around its huge copper mine in Irian al and international human Jaya, continually complain of rights organisations, continue to complain about human rights abuses in the

comes later, if at all". Last year, market capitalisation on the Jakarta stock exchange rose by 46 per cent. Mark Canning, first secre-tary (commercial) at the Brit-ish Embassy in Jakarata, agreed. He said: "People now

where they think there are

the best opportunities to make money. And there is a huge heightening interest in the op-portunities available here". These were increased earlier this year when the Indonesian government further liberalised foreign investment regulation. In many sectors, foreign investors are

Mr Canning added: "Once companies realise the opportunities here they are keen to further develop their

Future British investment to Indonesia looks likely in the transportation sector and off industries, following two trade delegations here in the past six weeks, led by Transport Secretary Sir George Young and Trade Minister Lord Fraser respectively.

The Netherlands is the second biggest cumulative European investor. Indonesia's former colonial ruler has invested £15 billion since 1967. Nicholas Marshall, a Brit- now allowed to own 100 per Germany is third with ment is also in spite of other, Nicholas Marshall, a Brittnow allowed to own 100 per Germany is third with well-publicised, abuses. Last ish financial analyst, said: cent of local companies. al- 27.6 billion in the same period.

life to Internet all Internet traffic is via Mark Tran in New York

Apple links its

PPLE Computer yester-day linked its fortunes to those of the Internet as it promised to revolution-ise the medium in the way it had the personal computer.
In a heavily prognosticated speech, Apple's new chairman, Gilbert Amelio, said

that the company planned to make its platforms — Macin-tosh, Newton and Pippla the best of their kind for the Internet. Newton is described as a

personal digital assistant and Pippin is a games device that can browse the Internet via

television sets.

By the end of the year, Mr
Amelio said, all Macintosh
computers would be Internet-

Apple has been criticised for its lack of an Internet strategy, unlike its great rival Microsoft. But the Internet does provide an opportunity for Apple as it faces one of its

Macs, and Apple technology is widely used by program-mers who create Web sites. To make a point about Apple's compatibility with the Net, Mr Amelio used the New-ton to surf the Internet and download files in a demon-stration in front 4,000 devel-

opers and journalists.

Mr Amelio plans to streamline the company's product line by stopping making 20 of the 40 models — and using just one operating system in-stead of six, which it would get IBM to market. There would be four hard-

ware business units: Macin-tosh, information appliances, imaging, and alternative plat-forms — responsible for mak-ing Apple technology work accross different platforms. Mr Amelio stopped short of abandoning the hardware business to concentrate of Apple's software, a strategy advocated by many Mac u Apple suffered a \$740 million (£490 million) loss in its

Nevertheless, 25 per cent of charges.

last quarter as it took heavy

and he reid igned

BAe and Matra create £1bn-a-year business

Missiles merger sparks new moves

ector in Europe's defence industry appeared to be in a state of flux last night after news of a series of potential alliances in the missile sector. British Aerospace and

France's Matra confirmed terested in intensifying our that they are to merge their missile operations to create a £1 billion-a-year business. BAe will back a bid by Matra's parent, telecoms and media group Lagardère, for a controlling stake in the defence electronics manufac-turer, Thomson CSF, when it is privatised by the French government later this year.

But Matra raised the prospect of a much broader restructuring of Europe's missile sector when the chair-man of its defence arm. Noel Forgeard, claimed that Germany's Daimler-Benz Aero-space and Britain's GEC which are both Lagardère shareholders — were interested in joining its bid to take control of Thomson CSF. Mr Forgeard added that

once the missile deal with BAe had taken effect, he hoped that a similar merger involving Dasa's missile and satellite business would be

is negotiating the merger of its own missile business with that of another French company, Aerospatiale, res-ponded coolly. A spokesman for the German company said last night: "We are looking with interest at the restruc-turing in France. We are in-

but there is no concrete push in that direction Calls to GEC were not

co-operation with Thomson,

figures within Key Europe's defence equipment manufacturing base have been pushing for a restructur-ing of the industry to meet the challenge of falling orders since the end of the cold war and fierce competition from the big US groups, such as Lockheed Martin. European manufacturers are already putting together a consortium involving BAe, Matra, Brit-ain's GEC, Saab of Sweden, Italy's Alenia and Dasa to bid for the missile for the new Eurofighter against Ameri-

can competition. The problem is particularly acute in France because of heavy cuts in the defence

BAe yesterday declined to give details of the kind of sup-port it intended to provide to

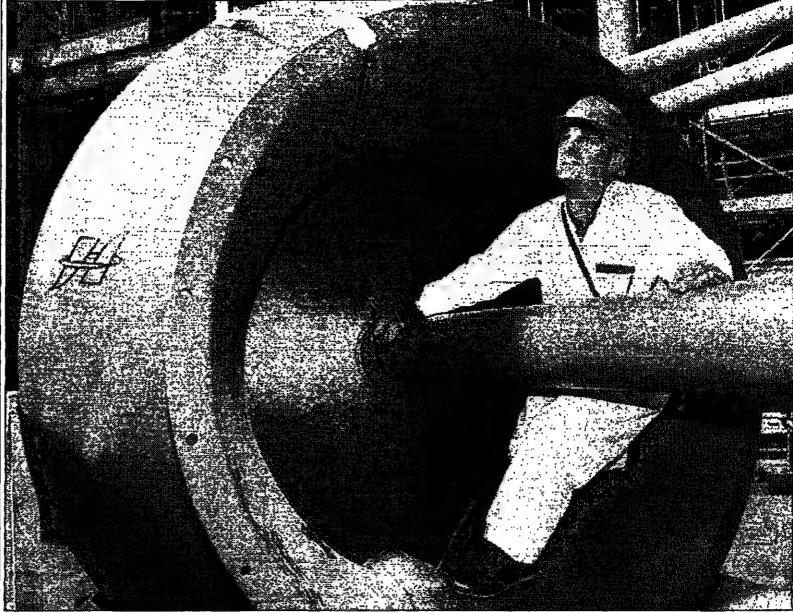
Dasa, which already has two joint ventures with towards Thomson CSF in defence and stage, its intervention is likely to be seen as boosting Lagardère's credibility as a bidder, as well as giving BAe access to information about Thomson. Industry watchers say it would be no surprise if GEC and Dasa were to be interested, and that their participation would also help La-gardere's case with the French government.

"Everyone wants to be on the starting grid because everyone wants to be on the finishing line, too. There is going to be a lot of movement between now and where we end up." said one source.
The announcement of the

BAe/Matra missile deal was greeted with relief in the City yesterday. "This has been going on for so long — about three years — that people were wondering if it would come house." The fact that it ever happen. The fact that it has is a great relief." said SGST analyst Zafar Khan. BAe's missile division em

ploys some 2,800 people at three plants — Stevenage. Bristol and Lostock, while Matra's missile operations employ 3,200 at Velizy, So-logue and Compiègne. A BAe spokesman said that

it was too early to speak about the implications for jobs within the combined business.



Generating jobs... Dennis Morrison of Mitsui Babcock supervises installation of a fan impellor as Scottish Power's £140 million project to extend the life of coal-fired power stations Longannet in Fife and Cockenzie. East Lothian, into the 21st century gets under way

eye still on WBL

Crimin Bowcoll

tures Authority has summoned the chief executive of one of Britain's most lucrative commodity firms to a meeting with City regulators to ensure "compliance" with trading rules, it emerged yesterday

In a letter to Winchester Brokerage Ltd (WBL), the SFA confirmed that it had de-cided not to initiate disciplinary action "on the basis of the facts now before it.

"However." the letter continued. "the [SFA enforcement) committee was concerned that there were issues raised by this case which might have implications for the future relationship be-A and WR

The senior executive officer from WBL "should meet with [SFA officials] in order to obtain reassurances that WBL is fully committed to compliance with SFA rules"

The exchange follows a long-running legal battle between the company and the SFA. Winchester has twice taken the regulators to court allegations or abandon inqui- all their rules."

ries. During the last year, in an unrelated move, both Charles Vincent, nicknamed Copperfingers, and the coowner of Winchester, Ashley Levett, have left Britain to live in Monaco.

The SFA has been investigating multi-million pound dealings in the copper market involving the Chilean state producer Codelco. which lost \$200 million.

Two other London-based commodity firms, Sogemin and Metalgesellschaft, are being sued by the Chileans in connection with allegations that a Codelco employee was paid substantial bribes.

Welcoming yesterday's statement, Winchester said the SFA's letter proved there were "no plans to initiate disciplinary action against any Winchester Group'

Stephen Heath, the firm's managing director who has-been asked to meet SFA officials, said yesterday. "The SFA inquiries have been a damaging distraction for the company. It is extremely good news that after a lengthy and comprehensive look at our business, the SFA have found to demand they bring forward | that we have complied with

City watchdog's | Factory gate prices held down

ANUFACTURERS have been forced to slash V prices in order to sell goods as weak demand at home and abroad has prevented them from passing on higher production costs to customers.

Despite facing higher-thanexpected input costs due to relatively strong oil prices. manufacturers held down factory gate prices according to a survey published by the Of-fice for National Statistics.

As a result, the factory sector, which is now officially in

tion which excludes food, drink, tobacco and petroleum. fell to an annual rate of 2.8 per cent in April, against 3.4 per cent in March. Retailers, however, had a better month, according to figures published today by the British Retail Consor-

fall last month to its lowest

The ONS said the core mea

sure of producer price infla-

level since December 1994.

tium. The survey showed high street sales were worth 4.4 per cent more in April and March than they were during the same two months a year ago.
The BRC said this was fur-

against the producer price data, the survey also high-lighted the two-tier nature of the economic recovery. Andrew Sentance, chief economic adviser to the BRC.

said manufacturers of consumer goods were already feeling the benefit of an upturn in consumer spending. The ONS survey, however, showed manufacturers had to drum up trade by holding prices down, even though input prices rose by 0.8 per cent in April against March to an annual rate of 3 per

Producers' inability to pass on higher costs in current

City analysts suggested. Others said that the lates figures would be unlikely to change Chancellor Kennetl Clarke's mind about interes rate levels. The Governor of the Bank of England, Eddle George, said last night in Basle, Switzerland, that "in-

flationary pressures are very

subdued CIBC economist David Coleman said this suggested there would be no surprises in the Bank's quarterly infla-tion report, published today. This is likely to confirm the Bank's view that the Govern-

ment is on course to meet its inflation target of 2.5 per cent

Call to scrap productivity rises

Sarah Ryle

IGHTLY-PAID workers would have to rein in wage demands as part of a national strategy to cut unemployment without sending inflation soaring, according to the Employment Policy Institute, an independent economic think-tank. The EPI aiso calls for

tivity at individual firms in favour of rises linked to a national average. And it is calling for the introduction of a minimum wage if Labour wins the next

> But whatever the political complexion of the next government, the EPI report's authors believe an economic policy council, which would monitor pay deals and send disputes to arbitration,

should be set up.
The EPI report warns that, although the current gradual fall in unemployment has had

break in the link between pay | ing structural employment | for example. Pay increases increases and higher produc- | problems, such as youth job- | should not be in line with an problems, such as youth job-lessness, which could spell economic as well as social danger in the future.

The report. Full Employment Without Inflation: A Policy for Pay, calls for a long-term strategy before "crisis management" be-

Coordinating wage increases would mean moving away from a strict relationship between productivity gains and wage rises, accord ing to one of the authors, John Grelve Smith.

He says: 'This means that professions which are invest-ment-intensive have bigger no adverse effect on wage in ment-intensive have bigger flation. Britain has underly-rises than the public services,

individual firm's productiv-

Instead, they should reflect the national average increase in productivity, and should maintain a balance between different employers.

The balance, the authors say, is threatened by "exceptional" pay increases, such as the 15 per cent rise Members of Parliament are set to pass for themselves.

They are calling on Labour to introduce a national minimum wage in one go, rather than gradually feeding it in, in order to have the least possible impact on other wage

Stansted's

run by BAA, the former Brit-ish Airports Authority.

The airport said yesterday that the introduction of 11 annual rate of 20 per cent.

are on El Al's flights to Tel Aviv and New York.

an increase of 1.9 per cent on April last year. The traffic figures have

crease of 1.4 per cent in pas senger traffic at Heathrow but with a pass-through rate of 54.755,000 people it is still the busiest airport.

In April, domestic and Irish markets saw increases of 9

Stet signals to **C&W** in code

John Glover in Milen

lecoms group, is hinting that it has a line open to Cable & Wireless, in the wake of the breakdown of C&W's merger talks with BT.

A Stet spokesman acknowledged that exploratory talks in the past between the two companies stelled during the BT merger discussions, "but the logic of the situation has

The logic is that both companies have been fruitless suitors in the merger mania gripping the telecoms indusry. Stet has been negotiating strategic partnership deal with the computer maker IBM for two years, but this

ing director Ernesto Pascale said he thought an international agreement would be sizmed before the company was privatised later this year. Romano Prodi, who led the

tion to victory at the recent general elections, has made the privatisation of Stet a pri-

The Italian press reported Prodi was in favour of a linkup between Stet and C&W. plus C&W's allies, Germany's Vebs and Bouyges of France. This, it was reported, would involve some exchange of

ment on rumour and

speculation.
"My information is that there will be a Stet-C&W announcement sometime in the next two-to-three weeks," said

telecoms company in Italy. Stet and C&W are comple mentary in geographical sive interests in Latin America, central and eastern

C&W strongholds are the Far East and UK, the latter a market Stet has eyed in the centre-left Olive Tree coali- | past.

News in brief

600 to be laid off at Clydeside yard

NEARLY 600 shipbuilders are to be laid off by Yarrow because the Clydeside subsidiary of GEC has a gap in its order book. A total of 570 jobs is going, even though the yard won a £400 million order in February from the Ministry of Defence to build three Type 23 frigates.

Some 430 people have already been made redundant since February. The latest job losses will affect 490 manual workers and 30 staff and managerial employees, predominantly from production. Workers will leave within the next 90 days. The workforce at the Glasgow yard now totals 1,900. — Tony May

top-flight slot | PowerStore shuts shops

THE administrators of PowerStore (Trading) and Homepower Stores said that 31 stores were being closed from the end of next week with the loss of more than 260 jobs.

David Duggins, of administrator Arthur Andersen, said since being appointed on April 29 his firm had striven to preserve jobs but now had no alternative but to reduce the size of the business. He said there were a number of cases where a retail outlet in the high street had not been viable in the face of out-of-town stores. The companies will continue to trade from 54 stores and expressions of interest have been received from potential buyers. — Tony May

Beazer's luxury extension

BEAZER Homes, the UK's third-biggest housebuilder, has expanded into the luxury end of the market by acquiring the Charles Church group for £37.5 million from the Royal Bank of Scotland. Dennis Webb, Beazer's chief executive said he expected Church, whose average selling price last year was £180,000, "to have a positive effect" on earnings in its first full year within the group in the year to August 31, Charles Church sold 193 homes and

made a profit before interest of £4.1 million on sales of £34.7 million. But most of the profit went to pay interest on bank loans, Beazer is acquiring Church debt-free and says it has a land bank of 593 owned plots and the option to acquire a further 6.500 throughout southern England. — *Tony May*

KWELM creditors get paid

Creditors of the five insolvent KWELM insurance companies are to receive a third payment of \$220 million (£146 million) this summer, bringing their total payout so far to over \$920 million.
Chris Hughes, a partner at Coopers & Lybrand, one of the
KWELM administrators, said the ultimate liabilities for the
companies, which collapsed in the early 1990s, were around \$9.7 billion, 8 per cent lower than originally estimated. The KWELM companies were members of the London United Investments group, many of whose customers were US medical and legal firms. — Pauline Springett

Conran takes Manhattan

STYLE entrepreneur Sir Terence Conran is exploring plans to open a large shop and restaurant complex at a site underneath the 59th Bridge on the upper east side of Manhattan. The site has been per cent, while European in development for two decades. The only signed tenant so far at the 100,000sq ft site is Bread & Circus, a Texas-based supermarket cent below last year's level.

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Stake sale boost for bank shares

Standard Life may
Sell but bid talk

6 per cent of Standard
Life's UK equity portfolio, a
large proportion for a
single investment.

is premature, says Pauline Springett

THE Bank of Scotland was the focus of intense takeover specula tion yesterday after mutual insurer Standard Life confirmed it was considering selling its 32.2 per cent

stake in the bank. Shares in Bank of Scot-land soared 14p to 252.5p on the news but, although several bidders—including Halifax, Abbey National, and HSBC — were immediately tipped, most analysts ruled out a full bid. They believed it was more likely that Standard Life would retain some of its holding soar, with a 21 per cent rise and parcel out the remaining pre-tax profits for 1995

der to other institutions. Analysts reasoned that the bank was highly efficient, with branches mainly located in Scotland. This meant it was an unattractive purchase for any bidder looking to strip out

unnecessary costs.
Scott Bell. group managgroup might sell all or part originally cost £155 million | land stake so that it would and was now worth be in a position to pounce \$900 million. He said it now on any attractive acquisrepresented more than tion target.

He said Standard Life had

not lost confidence in Bank of Scotland, but added: "We believe it could be in the inerests of our policyholders to rebalance our equity portfolio by realising some or all of our stake in Bank of Scotland." Standard Life's decision

to maintain such a large stake in Bank of Scotland had been interpreted as a possible precursor to closer ties between the two groups. But in recent years each has gone its own way. Bank of Scotland has decided to build up an Australian business by acquiring a dominant stake in Bank of Western Australia. It has also seen its profits steadily

at £545 million. Standard Life is Europe's largest mutual insurer, with more than £40 billion of assets under management, but it is not immune to the increased competition within the financial services sector and the pressure on all players to ing director of Standard increase their product Life, confirmed that the range. Analysts said the current takeover activity of the stake, which it had within the sector had prob-built up over 11 years. Mr ably forced Standard Life to Bell said the bolding had liquidate the Bank of Scot-

29pc growth takes BAA's

Keith Harper Transport Editor

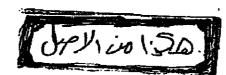
PASSENGER traffic increased by 29 per cent at Stansted airport in the year to April, making it the fastest growing of the seven airports

new routes had contributed to Stansted's expansion, and its total of 4,214,000 passengers handled. It was growing at an New routes on which the growth has been most marked

Stansted said that a further increase was expected after the introduction of Aer Lin-gus flights to Dublin this summer. Since last year, it has also added flights to Rotter-dam, Prague and Marseilles. BAA's airports handled 7.6

million passengers in April,

been greatly influenced by the timing of Easter, with much of the traffic occurring in March. This led to an actual de



Forget the lottery, this is \$1m stud

AS VEGAS usually makes it on to the sports pages as a big-time boxing venue. but its place in what might broadly be called the sporting life is secured this week by the world championship of poker. Value to the winner: \$1 million (£650,000). All you have to do is buy \$10,000 worth of chips in Biniou's Horseshoe Casino and in the space of four days progressively clean out some 300 other honefuls. Second last other hopefuls, Second-last person out wins about \$500,000 and the preceding 25 players share, on a sliding scale, the rest of the \$3 million write need and a scale. lion prize pool generated by the buy-in bucks.

This final \$10,000 round is the climax of a month-long World Series of Poker which Binion's has conducted in one form or another since 1970. This year it involved 25 those with more modest ambitions or bankrolls - and a total of around \$11 million worth of tournament chips.

The game these people play is a no-limit version of seven-card stud poker known as Texas Hold'em (see panel story below). You can bet as much as you have in front of you at any stage but you leave the game — "freeze-out" ap-plies — once you have lost all your chips. In other words you may not buy more than your original \$10,000 worth of chips by pulling out a wad of notes to bludgeon your oppo-nents by raising them a zil-

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A STATE OF THE STA

As there is no seeding — nor any qualifying round as such, beyond finding the buy in the world's finest poker pro-fessionals start on an equal footing with the celebrities. show-offs and small-time winners of the satellite mini-tour-naments. For a \$220 buy-in, these satellite events give more than 3,000 hopefuls a chance of winning that \$10,000 ante into the big time. Each year so many of the same people reach the world

championship final table, and the big money, that skill simply must count for more than luck in this game. For abso-lute proof of this, one need look no further than the man whose epic playing inspired the tournament, the poker legend Johnny Moss, who was said to have won \$2 million from Nick "The Greek" Dandalos in a high-stakes marathon arranged by Benny Bin-



When Binion recreated that battle in 1970 with his annual world championship. Moss dominated by winning three times. He stayed on and played in Las Vegas (the city he called "Lost Wages") until his death this year in his

Other characters to play at Binion's include Doyle "Texas Dolly," Brunson, twice the winner here and author of Supersystem, the most com-prehensive poker manual of all. More-pallid heroes: Puggy Pearson. Sailor Roberts. Preston, Tom McEvoy, Stu ways in poker, money is both the ammunition you play Chan, Mansour Matloubi — with and the reason for Britain's 1990 world champion — and the title-holder Dan Harrington, a retired

Texas Hold'em being what and five communal cards in the centre, you can work out only from other players' betting patterns what cards they might be holding. "No limit" Apart from the \$1 million.

lects a gold bracelet — pure Vegas kitsch but trendy with it - and the warm glow that comes from proving yourself outstandingly wily and bright in a competition with a proud history of the wily and bright. As to the money, the truth means what it says: you can be noted by the control of the control

her as it does to ordinary match: the last two will effec tively be playing for \$500,000 and it could all hinge on the turn of a single card.

sent quite the same to him or

At this level of poker play tad too obvious. The skill lies in aggression and unpredictability. Statistical expertise mastery of the finer points of poker strategy, a healthy seen-it-all attitude to "bad beats" (losing against the

Alvarez is miffed at missing it for the first time in years. "I'm pretty good but Dan Harrington is very classy," he said. "They're all classy. Me playing with them is like a good club tennis player entering Wimbledon."
The smart money is on Har-

Our British hope will be Mike "The Clock" Cook, who

finished 11th last year and earned \$27,680. The author-enthusiasts who have popu-

larised the game in Britain -

Anthony Holden with Big Deal, Al Alvarez with The

Biggest Game in Town, and David Spanier with Total

Poker - will variously be

taking part, kibitzing (advis-

ing or second guessing from the sidelines). and

rington to retain his title, but many are rooting for Barbara Enright, who last year became the first woman to reach the final table. She fin-ished fifth, giving the finger to the age-old generalisations about women's abilities at the green baize.

The romance, though, lies It sounds simple but the labyrinths of bluffing psychology found in Hold'em can will parlay his or her \$220 Racing

Ruznama can turn on style in Oaks trial

NOTHER round of Clas sic trials gets under way at York this after-noon when the first day of this important spring meet-ing stages the Tattersalls Musidora Stakes for three-year-old fillies.

Of the five runners, only Ruznama is engaged in the Oaks. But a convincing dis-play from Magnificient Style is likely to see the Henry Cecil-trained filly added to the line-up — at a cost of £15,000 — at the supplemen-tary stage on May 31.

Hill's quote Magnificient Style at 16-1 in the expectation that connections will fork out the supplementary Hill's, but those respective odds do not add up on the evidence of the fillies' running Pricket

Neither had the slightest chance with the impressive Pricket, now a ridiculously short-priced 6-4 favourite for the Oaks, but in finishing fourth Ruznama was giving weight to the winner and did not enjoy the best of luck in running under a sympathetic ride from Willie Carson,

Ruznama is now 5lb better off for the length and three quarters she finished behind Magnificient Style and seems sure to come on a good deal for that first run of the

Admittedly, Magnificient for improvement, but she looked ill at ease on fastish ground at Newmarket and was never striding out with the fluency she displayed on easier going at Kempton first

Ruznama showed useful

market. She may be best equipped to cope with the underfoot conditions today. Sil Sila seems well suited by some give in the ground and on this season's Kempton form has something to find with Sea Spray. Peter Chap-ple-Hyam's filly only scram-

bled home that day, but is probably capable of better. However, if Pricket is a gen-uine Oaks favourite, her Newmarket form must be upheld by Ruznama (3.40) or Magnificient Style. Preference is for Barry Hills's runner.

Sea Spray's stable compan-ion Nash House continues to be all the rage for tomorrow's Dante Stakes and was trimmed to evens from 5-4 with Ladbrokes yesterday.

Dushyantor is out to 4-1 from 7-2, but his claims can receive a boost in the final

(4.40) reappears in the York Raceday Radio Stakes. A 15-lengths winner first time out, Lallans was put firmly in his place by Dushyantor at Newmarket. Mark Johnston's colt shapes like a useful stayer in the making and over this 14 fur-longs trip he can out-gallop Roger Charlton's promising Doncaster scorer. Summer

race today when Lallans

The in-form Charlton sends a strong team to the three-day meeting. He has won with six of his nine two-year-old run-ners at York in the past five years, which suggests the stable's newcomer Sketch Pad (2.00) will be worth not-

ing in the opener. Dombey (2.35), a decisive winner at Kempton, can follow up in the Shepherd Trophy Handicap. But Charlton's veteran sprinter Everglades may not be able to contain Top Banana (3.05), whose Newbury second to Anzio form last season when she looks good form. Henry signed off with an easy victory over Obsessive at New- joying a good run.

Fallon may take over Soviet Line

4.55 BALTYBOYS INTERMEDIATE OPEN MIN FLAT RACE 2m 110yds 21,641

1886: Speedwell Prince S 11 0 C Liversitive 7-4 (iii Turkston-Davies) 10 cm

Results

Bettings 11-8 The Jogger 3-1 Clobrathen Led. 5-1 Paper Days, 6-1 See Double You. 6-1 Antarctic Call, 14-1 Highway Jim

SOUTHWELL

Bestings 2-1 Tungszen 9-4 Rock On Honey 11-4 Dingle Wood, 8-1 Fools Noos, 10-1 Tungnin Lad, 20-1 Red Viger, 33-1 Gypsy Blues, Louis Rense, Island Cub

1995: Hardya Dooble Up 10 11 7 Hir J Jukas 10-3 (H W Loris) 7 ran

Line in Saturday's at yesterday's acceptance stage: Charnwood Forest, inge Stakes at Newbury to Kieren Fallon. Eddery met trouble in running when thoushoused by Cabr on Affair. Brief Glimpse and short-headed by Gabr on the Michael Stoute-trained gelding in last month's Sandown Mile. Fallon. who rode the six-

year-old into seventh place in a Listed six-furlong event at Newmarket last month, has been offered the

monnt. But his agent, David Pollington, said: "Mr Stoute has asked Kieren to ride, but Jack Ramsden wants him to go to Thirsk, though he'll need to look at the en-

Joe Mercer, racing man-ager to Soviet Line's owner said: "If Kieren can't ride, the jockey has been left entirely to Michael Stone"

DAT EDDERY could | Only 10 were declared for the Group One mile contest Affair, Brief Glimpse and Timarida.

Spectrum will be having his first run in Britain since he landed the Dubai Champion Stakes last

October. The colt finished fourth in the Prix Ganay at Longchamp on his reappearance last month but his trainer, Peter Chapple-Hyam, said: "He ran well in the Ganay until he blew up and that run has brought him on a lot. He is going to run a

Luca Cumani reports Smart Alec a probable run-

A flush licks a pair but nothing beats Texas Hold'em

only to the individual player, but the basic peck-ing order among hands is generally the same, writes Chris Curtain

Thus, one pair is beaten by two pairs is beaten by three of a kind; then comes the straight (all cards in an unbroken running sequence, the higher the top card the better), flush (all same suit), full house (three of a kind plus a pair).

betting recommences.

It goes without saying that betting and bluffing—

own "hole" cards.

Texas Hold'em. It goes like this: two hole cards; betting: three cards are dealt to ling: three communal cards

poker: each player is dealt five cards face down (which nobody else sees), there is a round of betting on the strength of those initial hands and then unwanted cards are "discarded" for replacements dealt fresh from the deck; and then

The basic game most the number of your dispeople would recognise is cards — is the soul of known as five-card draw poker.

"Stud" poker is where some cards are dealt face up — usually in the middle of the table, so that all players may use them to construct the best possible hand in combination with the cards that have been dealt to them alone, their

form

ting), and another (more betting) before a seventh and final card is dealt face down to each player. Who can make the best five-card hand out of that lot? They

bet again. The version of seven-card stud played in most casinos nowadays is known as Texas Hold'em. It goes like this: two hole cards; bet-

POKER comes in many four of a kind and then the forms, usually involving five or seven cards, some or all of which are known only to the individual people would recognise is cards — is the soul of Then another (more beta fourth communal card (the "river" card, since you ask); more betting; then the fifth and final communal card and, yes, yet more betting.

The other seven-card stud played in casinos is Omaha Hold'em which is, naturally, not too distant from Texas except that each in the thrilling possibility player has four hole cards. be extraordinary.

into a cool million. Chepstow National Hunt card

3.20 Magasi Beach 3.65 Cheveley Dancie 4.25 The Jogger ologi Pirin. + Oqualog bilakuru. imrus in hrackata aftar horse's same denete days skoce kitest I(I) outleg. 1.45 STATUS HOYICE CLASHING HUNDLE 2m 110yin tz,157 41PPFC DAMAS (11) M Pgc 5-11-6 6-SUPPL PALACE PARADE (8) G Ham 5-11-5 (9)-804 STREET TRESTITED (10) M Fact 5-11-4 305112 OUT BANKING (8) (II) M Pipe 4-11-0 Buildings 1-3 Out Renking, 11-2 Surest Trentino, 8-1 Darms, 12-1 Palace Parada 2.15 ERRET & YOUNG HOVICE HANGECAP CHASE DIS CO,864 2 TO BESST A YOUNG HOYGE MARKSCAP CHARS IN CARAGO
1 (0-11-53 CELTIC SELVER (14) Mr. 5 Smith 9-11-10 (15)
2 (E57-34) CHACECORO ELEA (8) (78 mg.) (5) Edwards 3-11-5
2 PP003 SEA PATROL (7) M Ppo 9-10-11
4 207-54 TRUET (CEED (7) S Kingholi 12-10-5
3 P-562W TEARPUL PRINCE (7) C Minchell 12-10-5
6 P07-935 DAVIS DELIGHT (11) R DELIGHT (12-10-5
7 (B-PUPP OFFENDED CASTLE (7) E Enfe 16-10-0
8 P1-1752 MEAT AND TIDY (14) C Pophen 11-10-5 1995: Hermile Fire 5 16 3 D Bridgester 6-1 (J W McGest) 10 res Bettings 7-4 Cebr. Strey, 5-3: Creciono Idea, 3-1 Sea Patrol, 7-1 Tres Deed, 14-1 Tearful Prince. De Delgie, 30-1 Natal And Tay, Conveold Custo 2.50 MAY HANGICAP HUNGLE 2m 4F 110yds ES,625 1 20379 RUBARAY PETE (41) (D) M Por 5-11-10 D Bridgewith
2 114401 BADART (8) D (sendolo 7-11-5 R Damwood
3 11405 KEEP BE RUBER (10) (60) N Michael 7-11-5 D Blytme
4 2-51PP SECRET FOUR (89) (CD) Michael 10-11-3 A P RoCoy Betting: 6-4 Runavaty Pale, 9-4 Hadpall, 7-2 Keep No In 1646 6-1 Secret Four

r 988k Rather Sharp # 10 O H Williamson 11-4 (C Pophuse) 3 ras Bettings 11-8 Magani Basch, 9-4 Armata. 7-2 Supposin, 5-1 Raiher Sharp 3-3-3 AMMANA-BUY SQLING BURKECKS PRINSER to 110yth Eq.108

1 4085 THE BLACK BOINE (9) (6) (5) (8) M Pea 8-71-10

2 20075 EISHOPS CASTLE (10) R Front 8-10-11

3 08635 GEORGE LANG (10) F Jordan 8-10-11

4 03500 CATWALKER (84) M Webb 5-70-6

5 37979 STROBNO EDGE (11) (9) T Had 11-70-0

6 34670 GREEN (14) (10) T Had 11-70-0

7 130-90 CANNELEY DANGER (88) (0) T Naughton 8-70-0

8 89700 SEZOMEN (18) J Bradey 8-10-0

9 5-0879 FLY M AMERIC (184) D Serect Davis 5-10-0

10 U-PPOP GARRER (11) (0) B Scriven 11-70-0

E14 90. CSF C31 09 4.45 (2m 4yds): 1, ARIAN SPIRIT, A Lappin (5-1), 2, Sattin Lover (4-1): 3, Mon-dragon (3-1) 2-1 lav Upper Mount Clair 6 ran. 18, 18, 18, Eyen 1 toos C5 20 22 20, 14 50 Dual F: C13 30 CSF E22.78 Dualif (13 of 12.76 A) 5.16 (77): 1, ZELDA ZONK, 8 Doyle 17-2 (av), 2, Pakyusings 18-1; 3, Best of AR (12-1; 11 ran X, 3, 18 Mechan) Tore (2.00. 1,40, 1: 80, £4 40. Dual F : £13 60 Tro £45 40 CSF £30.02. Tricast £286.85 1955: Abbelck Columna 8 10 0 W Marston 8-1 (M Ucher) 12 rue Bettilings 6-4 The Black Misels, 5-2 Charatoy Dencar, 5-1 Brakeps Cassle, George Lane, 14-1 Casseller, 20 Bilbert, Striding Edge, 25-1 Ply In Amber, Stazonnie 4.25 JOHNOUS MOVICE PRINTERS' CILLES (Ambrel) 3m (1) 272 JACKPOT: Not won, \$3,322.79 carried over FFF/IS-1 THE JOOGER (7) C Tizzard 11-12-6 ISBN:- ANTARCTIC CALL (781) M Levis 9-12-0 2 CLORBACKSIC LAD (12) Med. Backtor 8-12-9 2011-P QEE DOUBLE YOU (81) J Tuloch 10-12-0 In York Inday.
PLACEPOT: £234.30.
QUADPOT: £42.70.

2.15 (6f): 1, NULA PRINCE, M Hully (4-1 co-lavourite) 2, The Lambton Worm (5-11; 3, Dive Rester (9-1). 4-1 co-favuacty Oakwood Mill End Boy 14 ran 1a, 1a (Mark Johnston) Tote: 05.70; 12.00, 22.60. 22.90. Dual F: 146 10. Trio 1183.60, CSF 129.77. 3.00 (7%: 1, AWESOME VENTURE, D McCabe (7-1), 2, Desert Invader (13-2); 3, Dancing Sicur (15-8 lay), 10 ran & 15, (M Chapman Tote, £10.30 £2.30, £2.20, £1.20, Dual F: £47 90, Trio: £34.30 CSF: £49.81. | 1.2 90. Dual F 246 10. Trio 2183 60, CSF 29.77. |
| 2.45 (60): 1, PANTHER, k Falion (6-1), 2, Rombacky 125-1). 3, No Monkey Mats 11-6 favi 14 ram 8. 3, J Heibertoni Tote 15.00, C2 10, C2 90 C1.10. Dual F 288 70. |
| 3.18 (1m): 1, SPANISH STEPS, Jo Hunnam 16-1): 2, Per's Cardisor (11-2): 3, Per 14-20, C5 10. C2 00. C2 00. C3 00. C2 00. C3 00. 125.80. CSF 153.22. Tricest C292.02

3.45 (1m 20: 1, HAWKSLEY HILL, K
Fallon 15-1 (av): 2, Ordained (33-1): 3,
Alpine Pumber (100-20: 4, Bleecheim
Terrace (65-1): 17 ran K 3K, K (Mrs.)
Rameden 106. CS.00: 11-30. C9-40. C110.
(IA.10 Duel F. E280.30 Tric 23-4 50 CSF
E29 63 Tracest C39-47.

4.15 (1m 20: 4, CLASSIC FIND., A
Markey (10-1): 2, Got Avery With Rt (2-1
p-lay Mohannad 8 ran 3, 3K (8 Williams)
Tole: 114 00: C2.80. C1.00. C3.70. Duel F
C34 80. CSF (21 00

4.45 (2m 4yth): 1, ARHAN SPERT. p F 15 50 1710 12.70 CSP 171.53 5.00 (1m 37): 1, CANTON VENTURE, J MOON (4-11-4-y) 2, Silver Hustler (8-1; 3, Personitume (6-1) 4-1 II-lav Carol Again 11 ran. 25, 15, 15 Woods; Tone 57 20: 53 50, C2-50, 52.00. Dual F 542.20 Trio 5194 70. CSF 238 66. Tricast 5186 82 PLACEPOT: E29 10. QUADPOT: £17.30.

2.30 (5f): 1, JUST VISITING, M Henry (25-1): 3, Whizz Kid (25-1): 3, Bollero (5-6 law) 10 ran 22, Ad. (J Wilson) Tote Lot 00, (13.90, C7 80 C1.00, Duaf F: 242-70 Trio: 2208 60, CSF C445 20, NR Miss Barcelona.



LOG Sketch Pad	5.40 Rezments	1.0
L35 Dombey (nb)	4.10 Polydames	į ē
LOS Top Beneral	4.40 LALLANS (nep)	ł.

2.00 HEF TRANSPORMER EXPRESS MAIDEM PELLIEF STAKES 270 SECS, 796 S ANY (7) C Smith 8-11

SMOPS REPRESAL M Chennon 8-11

BANCE PARADE P Cole 8-11

SOVAL OBCNER R Hannon 8-11

SOVAL OBCNER R Hannon 8-11

SOVAL OBCNER R Hannon 8-11

K Pales 3

25 TOP OF THE WIND (8) J C'Nell 8-11 TOP FORM TIP: Top Of The Wind 7 1995; Tropical Danon & 11 J Reil 4-1 (Nes J Coell) & rea

Bettings 2-1 Shelch Ped. 9-4 Dance Parate, 7-2 Bride's Represel, 4-1 Royal Crohed, 12-1 Top OI The Wind, 3-1 Amy FORM GUIDE-TOP OF THE WIND Pushed along throughout, some hazaway first 21. no impression, Si 5th behind ice Age (Doncaster 51, Ga-Fm): previously rain on self to linish 154 2nd to Marathen Maid (Newcastle 51, Gd). AMEY: Started stouty, always ontpeced, 18 lest of 6 bird Connemera (Cheeser 51, Gd).

Channel 4 2.35 SHEPHEED TROPHY RATED STAKES HANDICAP SYO 1= 21 65/44 612,666 1996: Dabil: 3 9 7 W Corson 6-1 (W R Hern) 7 res Berning: 5-2 Dembey, 3-1 Harcouriess, 4-1 Double Dearend, 5-1 Piessent Surprise, 8-1 Municht, 9-1 Villegoldura, 14-1 Warsing Rest Velogomaria, 1a-1 reprinting mean
FORM GAIDE - DOUBLE DAMFOND: Labed, won Swiss 2000 Gainers at Zurich by 9 from Site, press
FORM GAIDE - DOUBLE DAMFOND: Labed, won Swiss 2000 Gainers at Zurich by 9 from Site.
FORM GAIDE - DOUBLE DAMFOND: Labed, won Swiss 2000 Gainers at Zurich by 9 from 1m11, 530.
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BOSH

nvit, Gd). Prominest, led over 17 aut, poshed clear, ot had an inch 31 (Brighton 7), Fm'. ATUSRA: Weakened over 21 aut. 10 last of 7 to Jackson (III) (Saksbury 1m2, G3). INSEEP, Never noor to challenge, 9: Gill to Dr Massard (Kempton 1st, Gd-Fm). 3.05 PAUL CADDICK AND MACGAY SPRINT TROPHY HATED STAKES HTCAP & C11,274 3...U.5 PAUL CADDICK AND MACGAY SPRINT TROPHY HATED STARES FFCAP & C1...ET4
301 0042-60 MESLO MESTER (9) (0) 7 Powell 5-0-7 p McColor (3) 1
302 0045-61 DECUBER EULIS (6) (0) 1 Fowell 5-0-7 J Reld 9
303 0104-1 BADLY SHARP (9) (0) J West 5-9-2 J Reld 9
304 2/1359-5 STYLESS WAYS (218) (0) MUSS 5-10 J Reld 9
304 2/1359-5 STYLESS WAYS (218) (0) MUSS 5-10 J Reld 9
305 0045-2 STYLESS WAYS (218) (0) MUSS 5-10 J Reld 9
306 0045-2 STYLESS AND (218) (20) R Charlton 8-0-1 J Sembers 7
307 4000-01 JAYANDPEK (40) (2) 1 Balding 5-9-1 J Reld 2 J 10083-6 ASTRAC (27) (CD) R Alsohurst 5-6-0 T Asisburg (7) 8
(8-000- MASTER PLANNER (258) (CD) C Cyzer 7-8-11 K Pallon 5
11230-2 TOP BASHANA (28) (D) H Candy 5-8-10 C Restor 2

100 Porters (1900 depleted to 100 to temper to 15-0 (D Michelle) 18 mil. 1895: Venture Capitalist 8 9 3 Alex Greenee 15-0 (D Michelle) 18 mil. Beethings 7-2 Top Benson, 4-1 Everglades, Jayannpes, 9-1 Madly Sherp, Astrac, 8-1 Touble Blue, 10-1 Menter Planner, 14-1 Stylish Ways, 20-1 Hello Mister Meeter Planner, 14-1 Stylest Ways, 30-1 Field Meater

PORM GARDE - MARK Y SHARP: Lad extering final furing, all out, by Yendar's Capitalist hd, with DOUBLE

BLIE (gave Std), speed 44, SS away 7th and HELLO MiSTER (gave Std) last of 11 (Newtranhel R, Gd-Fre).

EVERICA ADMS: Headway (rest larlong, nar on weel, 22 2nd thid literant (Salasbury SI, Gd-Fre).

EVERICA ADMS: Headway (rest larlong, nar on weel, 22 2nd thid literant (Salasbury SI, Gd-Fre).

EVERICA ADMS: Headway (rest if our and reach leaders, 71 6th to 7 areas (Newtranhel et al., 76 - 76 and 7 and 18 and obeje Good to firm (good in pinans). 🗢 Denotes blinbarn, Droon He sebso burns in handain after horse's mote denote days pince infect selfes.

Channel 4 3.40 TATTERSALLS BUSIDORA STAKES 3YO FRIE, 1m 26 SEPAL 215,204 12 MAGNING STATES AND TO THE TENT AND THE STATES AN TOP FORM TIPS: Buttoning S. Magalicient Style ? 1802: Pero Centro 2 8 10 d Baht Brenor (M ff Shanta) 5 enc Setting: 15-8 hingatiteient Style, 2-1 Pazzama. 7-2 Son Spray, 15-2 Connector, 10-1 Sil Sila

PORMS DURING - MANDERFICIENT STYLE Pulled hard, toalogd leaders until distanced 4 aut, stayed of under pressure first 21, SE 3rd hird Pricket, with AL(2)/ALSA (gave 5th) sneptor 50 away 4th (Normarket 102), Gd-Fris, and over 11 out, at out, at Partic Jungle six, with SE, SEA (gave 5th) sround SI back in 7th (Name) to 11 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, and a color 12 aut, at a color 12 aut, at

4.10 YORKSHEE LET MAGAZINE RANDICAP IN 41 E7,570 4-1 O TORISSIERE LETE INSGAZIZIER INAGENCIAP (in et ET, 57)

801 501111- MINEST WINSELY SLAND) - Existing 4-8-11

802 20210-4 POLYTRAHES (10) M Shoots 4-9-7

903 1003-5 TYRCEYPON (21) Loby Horizon 4-9-1

804 1003-5 TYRCEYPON (21) Loby Horizon 4-9-1

805 112210- CASSIAL MATTER (2000) (10) A Horizon 5-8-13

806 100-520 DOMANYER (10) IN 10 Cock 4-9-11

507 57300-3 PRIZE PUPEL (10) C WIN 4-9-11

508 0-8-11 REMARKAD SLEE (10) M Linker 4-8-18

509 18-632 LOBO SASTIA (13) (10) M Linker 4-8-18

510 20-900 ADVANCE ELSE (14) M M J France 4-8-8

811 014500- ELPEDA (1677) J Pearce 4-7-12 Bettings 9-2 Polydamas, 5-1 Price Popil, 6-1 Tylaynor, Lord Hartin, 7-1 Casual Water, Prograssion, 6-1 Remarch Sun, 10-1 Invest Weety, 12-1 Advance Blat, Domappel

PERMISS SUR, 19-1 Invest revery, 12-7 recent case, but apply and ever 25 cut, no ever 2, 50 Sh bird Beauchump Jude Reversaries tred, Cd-Fm).

POSLYDAUGAS: Trackad leaders, challenged 37 cut, one pass. 8 4th to Bull Gover Reversaries Ind.2, Gd-Fm) portest versus 31 cut, one case. 8 4th to Bull Gover Reversaries Ind.2, Gd-Fm) portest versus 31 cut, one case, but typer leaders Cole 11 (Yarmouth 2m2, Gd).

TYREYTORE Chested readers and redden and beaten 20 cut, but the behavioriess (Portations Ind.2, Gd).

CASLIAI, WATERE Headway 31 cut, finished strongly, unlooky, at 3 cut to Bloating Fasce, with TYREYOR (gave Bb) 28 authy 5th and LOTO HASTE Inc. 120) another shind 66 (December 1cut, Gd-Fm).

PRIZE PURFIL to looch, an on strongly final turiong. 191 Srd bird fillings Assambly Medingham Int.2, Gd-Fm). region. Region Albit State Switched to challenge over 11 out, but close home, by Another Three 18 (Pontalizare 1,Rm, Gd

4.40 YORK RACEDAY RADIO CONDITIONS STAKES 1YO 14 OF CL.207 995: Ratelo S & 15 M J Klamon 19-6 (H R A Coull) 7 mm Noticing: 11-10 La Ress, 7-4 Spanner Spall, 7-2 Adlesay, 25-1 Firements, 98-1 Open The Yard PORMI GUESTE - LALLANDS: Led after 11, hearing one 21 net, what's to quichen, 21 2nd of 3 and Dushyunlor (Neumanter 1m4, Gd-Fm).

SUBDEST SPELLS Prominent. Ind over 11 cst, drow clear, at Armborn 10 (Doncaster 1m2, Gd-Sh).

ATTESTRY, in buch, led over 21 oct, drown clear, at Armborn 10 (Doncaster 1m2, Gd-Sh).

REVERSARE 1, od and acon clear, journal 9 cur, hearing final hurtong, 4n of 8, 11 belief influence Pudler (Doncaster 1m8/132y, Gd-Fm)

There are no horses blinkered for the first time today.

Stubbs deal under threat from Fifa

Jan Ross

IFA yesterday insisted that it had the power to scupper the £3.5 million transfer of Alan Stubbs from Bolton the Scottish FA. Wanderers to Celtic.

The world governing body is investigating a claim that the deal that took the de-fender to Parkhead last week was brokered by an unli-censed agent. And Fifa can impose severe penalties on clubs and players found guilty of using unregistered

representatives. Although Celtic had been made aware last week of the possibility of a large fine, they learned yesterday that, worse, their club-record deal

last Friday was in doubt.
"We do have the power to call off or suspend transfers in extreme cases." said Keith Cooper, Fifa's director of communications. "If what we have heard is proved, then will play for us next season."

this is an important matter." The question of precisely who arranged and negotiated Stubbs's move was raised late last week by an unnamed football agent who, it is be-lieved, formally protested to

The English FA was immediately informed and an-nounced that it would write to Bolton to seek their

Emerson, the Brazilianborn midfielder, is expected to be unveiled as Middlesbrough's latest foreigner at a Riverside Stadium press conference this morning. He is believed to have agreed to a £4 million move from Porto.

Sunderland hope they can beat Leeds for the signature of Ian Rush, who will make a decision on his future this week. The Roker Park chief executive John Fickling said: "Peter Reid has spoken to him several times. We believe

Wolves' attempt to reach the Premiership is costing £6 million a year. The Molineux club showed a £6.1 million deficit over the 1994-95 season and a similar loss is expected for the campaign just ended.

"On our day-to-day trading we are probably making a slight profit," said Wolve commercial director David Clayton. "It is the transfer fees and very high wages that are having a big impact on

Chris Wright, head of the Chrysalis media group, has officially joined the competition to buy QPR, with £10 mil-lion the likely asking price. QPR's new managing director Alan Hedges confirmed last night: "Chris Wright has

been in touch and now we have three interested parties." Ian Holloway, QPR's 33 year-old midfielder, has returned to Bristol Rovers as player-manager on a three-



More Parry than thrust

Hoddle purdah rules

David Lacey hears a rising chorus of dissent and disbelief

EPRY VENABLES
starts his countdown to starts his countdown to the European Championship today when the England squad train at Bisham Abbey in preparation for Saturday's friendly against Hungary at Wembley, Glenn Hoddle, who will take over from Venables after Euro 96, is not

due to put in an appearance. Some feel that the Football Association has made a mistake in keeping Hoddle out of the way until Venables stands down as England coach at the end of next month. They cannot see the logic in appointing Venubles's successor before the tournament then denying him the chance to acquaint himself with many of the players he will be using in the World Cup qualifiers, which

believe it," he said yesterday. | Euro 96 cities. next coach now if he can't have anything to do with England until after the European Championship. Surely that the appointment early. I'm sure the players would like to be able to get to know Glenn

as soon as possible.
"When I was playing for England under Alf Ramsey we often had other managers around, men like Bill Shankly. I can't understand why Glenn isn't going to be part of

the scene straight away." The FA's view is that Venables should be spared any distrates on trying to win the is a reprieve for Roberto Don-European Championship. It is adoni, the 32-year-old former trates on trying to win the a fair point and if Hoddle did | Milan midfielder.

Charlton slams | Surgery out Stan turn up at Bisham this morn-ing the media scrum would be

even more hectic than usual. However, England's needs for the next World Cup should surely override these considerations. Hoddle has an awkward qualifier in Moldova on September 1 with little time to prepare for it. He has only just begun to assemble his backroom staff, with John Gorman, his former assistant at Swindon, earmarked as

right-hand man. Hoddle intends spending weeks. writes Ion Ross. the interim period checking on England's World Cup opponents: Moldova, Poland, Georgia and Italy, Useful though this exercise will be, his time would be better spent studying England's performances from the England bench - or at least from the row behind. Charlton yesterday hon-

oured Norman Higgs, the chairman of the London Youth FA. as a MasterCard out to be a double hernia. Football Ambassador for his He has been troubled by it start in September
Str. Robby Charlton has joined the doubters. "I can't are to be made in each of the youth soccer. Similar awards are to be made in each of the "Obviously he is desper-

"I think it's a waste of time to The Italy squad for Euro 96 land, but we want this sort-have made Glenn Hoddle the will be shorn of the Divine ing out once and for all. We Ponytail Arrigo Sacchi, who announced his 22 players yesterday, left out Roberto Baggio, the outstanding for ward in Italy's advance to the World Cup final two years

> held out much hope of making the squad after being left out of the qualifying games — though he played in the 2-1

home defeat by Croatia. Giuseppe Signori, another of the World Cup team, has also been omitted, despite finishing equal top scorer in Serie A this season. But there

Stender hope of making England's squad for the European Champi-onship finals disappeared yesterday. British football's most expensive player will enter hospital for a hernia operation this week, putting him out of action for at least eight

Liverpool's manager Roy Evans did not, however, suggest that the £8.5 million striker's injury con-tributed to the team's lacklustre performance in Saturday's FA Cup final against Manchester United. "We have kept Stan's problem quiet but he does now need surgery," said

Evans. "There is a possibility that the injury may turn for several weeks now and

ate to be involved with Engwant him fit in time to report back for pre-season training in July." Collymore's Anfield col-lesgue Rob Jones learns at

lunchtime today if he will ago.
Baggio, the 29-year-old
Milan forward, cannot have
Milan forward, cannot have
Iones has had a painful Jones has had a painful

back injury for several months and awaits, with some trepidation, the results of a hospital scan.
Graeme Sharp will know tomorrow if he is to be allowed to continue as Oldham manager. Although the First Division club avoided relegation, he has yet to be offered a new con-tract at Boundary Park.

Bates said of his decision to tear up the partnership plan:

"The negotiations have

reached a stalemate where the requirements of neither

successor, and I have a lot of

regret it has ended in the way it has. But life has to go on.

But for all those problems

The figures agree. Atten-

dances up again, and the next television deal due to pull in

Martin Thorpe ends the season with Party says it is "blindingly obvious" that the supply of, the Premier League's gently-does-it chief

IKE everything in life, | don't think there is a danger criticisms can be at the moment. But we could made of the Premier- get it wrong in future if ship. High ticket we don't run things sensibly. prices, the steady drift from working-class to middle-class Trying to find a benevolent consensus among the egos of crowds, the loss of the electric 20 Premiership chairman may sound a daunting task. But Parry has in the past atmospheres of the standing generation, players' spiralproved himself to be a gentle

persuader.
To avoid overheating it is few people can deny that this has been one hell of a seavital that we ensure [that] a significant proportion of money from the next televi-sion deal goes for the longson. As great entertainment goes, the past eight months have been up there with all those West End shows, blockterm good: the development of young players, the mainte-nance and development of stabuster films and Albert Hall concerts which soccer is al-ways being compared unfadiums," he says.

And what do the chairmen think? "There seems some en thusiasm and recognition that it makes sense. Keeping back some of the

The problem is that, as Mrs
Thatcher found, boom can
lead to bust. Can the Premiership clubs resist the temptation to gluttony?

deprive clubs of money to fuel
players' escalating wages, he
says. Though he cautions:
"The problem is that wages
are largely down to market "There is a concern we forces and the fact we are now could overheat," admits the competing in the European Premier League's chief executive Rick Parry. "Though I ting in measures to peg wages

If it means top players are not | and highlights works, and it going to come here." | is likely this will be the same

and demand for, top players can be redressed by financing more youth development, thus also steadying transfer fees and decreasing the need to buy foreign. Premiership worries about

the growing gulf with the First Division will also depend on the size of the television deal, says Parry, because nothing concrete can be done until the extent of the gap is

He hopes the television deal will be concluded this summer, ready for the start of the season after next. However. reports of digital revolutions bringing billion-pound jack-pots would appear to be a tad

"That technology is not going to be ready overnight. In four years we'll be in a better position to know which way it is soing. And, for instance. what impact pay-to-view will have on attendances. What makes us so attractive to television is the theatre of sport not just the event of sport. And it would be self-defeating

to harm it." At the moment, he says, to supporters: no time formula of live games sign of the times.

is likely this will be the same

next time". Firm details are equally unforthcoming from Parry about the ongoing "bung" inquiry, now more than two years old. But he denies it has become an embarrassment.
"Not at all," he says. "The fact that we haven't reported is not because we are sitting on it but because work is con-tinuing. The difficulty is

tracking down fact."
So when will it appear? " he savs.

There is one other problem next season the Premiership gloss will again be tested by the hard knocks of Europe. Parry describes English clubs' recent failures as "a frustration" but offers a word of caution to the mockers.

"The feedback we get from supporters is that Europe is the icing on the cake and the change of style or radical change in the format of domestic competitions to give clubs a greater chance in Europe tends to be ridiculed by supporters."

The Premiership listening to supporters: now there is a

Oz off route for GB tour

Rugby League

REAT BRITAIN will play five Tests when they tour at the end of the current Super League season, but it is not yet certain if they will visit Australia.

. That could depend on the Murdoch's News Corporation appeals against the decision to outlaw the Australian Super

If Great Britain do play in Australia it will not be against any sides loyal to, or chosen by the Australian Rugby League. Relations between the British and Austra lian governing bodies remain frosty and the ARL's threat to prevent Wigan's Gary Connolly and Jason Robinson from playing international football has done nothing to

induce a thaw.

Connolly and Robinson have agreed to play under the ARL banner in the future and have received sizeable "loytralian body. But Maurice Lindsay, the British league's chief executive, said yester-day that ARL threats would be ignored. "We will continue to select them," he said, and both are certain to be in the England squad to be named today for the European

hampionship. Great Britain, who will de part on September 21, will play Tests against Papua New Guinea and Fiji and three against New Zealand. The tour is to end with the third Test in Christchurch on Octo

At home, there will be a supplementary competition for amateur clubs and First and Second Division sides knocked out in the early rounds of next year's Chal-lenge Cup. The final will be played at Wembley as the cur-'I've given up predicting tain-raiser to the main event.

There are plans to expand the First Division to include two leading French clubs, and it is also hoped that a play-off between four leading First Division and French clubs will be held at the end of the current season, with the final played in the Charlety Stadium in Paris.

Lindsay confirmed that there had been firm applications from business consor-Super League clubs in Dublin and South Wales.

Wigan have joined Bradford Bulls in the chase to sign Stuart Spruce, the Widnes full-back, but both clubs' offers of around £100,000 have been rejected by Doug Laughton, Widnes's coach.

Rugby Union

Junior clubs and counties force Twickenham's hand

GRASSROOTS pressure stituent clubs declared yestarday that they "are not prepared to see the RFU abdicate its responsibilities to the within six months to determine the future structure of the game.

game as a whole".

Cliff Brittle, who was elected chairman of the RFU's 18-man

the game.

A powerful combination of counties and junior clubs has special meeting in January, demanded a speedy resolu- has been given the unanimous tion of the long-running dis-pute between the RFU and England's top clubs.

The English Rugby Counties Association (Erca) is seeking

cluding the secretary Tony (Hallett. The counties and their con-

executive committee at a backing of Erca, which points out that he is "the principal executive officer responsible for the day-to-day running of

the RFU's business". an urgent meeting with the The counties expressed conRFU president Bill Bishop cern that Brittle "has not RFU and the English Profesand other senior officers in received the support of the offisional Rugby Union Clubs Super-12 tournament.

cers and executive of the RFU in carrying out his duties and indeed has been actively hin-

dered by certain members". Erca insists that the RFU must maintain primacy in players' contracts as well as responsibility for all domestic competitions, sponsorship and media contracts.

Great Britain's rugby league forward Richard Eyres, who

Unless Erca achieves "a sat has been out of favour with isfactory outcome" to its pro-posed meeting with the senior Francois Pienaar I officers, it warns that it will pulled out of the Barbarians ask member clubs to demand team to face Ireland in this another special meeting, probably in Birmingham, to settle unresolved issues.

tinue this week.

• Bristol are close to agreeing terms with Mike Hall, the 30-year-old Cardiff centre who captained Wales in last year's World Cup. Bristol's new coach Alan Davies also wants

Francois Pienaar last night

Saturday's Peace Interna-tional in Dublin. South Africa's captain broke his nose

Table Tennis Carl Prean, who declined to play for England all last sea-

Sport in brief

son, will compete in next month's Brazil Open in Rio de Janeiro, writes Richard Jago. Prean, who was absent from the team relegated from the European championship's top group a fortnight ago, may now be in England's squad for next year's championship.

Golf

Britain's Laura Davies won her second LPGA Champion-ship in three years when she mastered a difficult DuPont Country Club course in Wil-mington, Delaware. Her evenpar .213 total was completed with a one-under 70

Hockey

Great Britain officials, back from the Azlan Shah tournament in Malaysia, will not announce their squad for the planned because of their injury list, which includes Jason Laslett, Julian Laws and Rowley. The squad will probably now be named on Sunday

Cricket

Benson & Hedges Cup News and Scores

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Gullit can still buy big

Martin Thorpe

Arsena

Aston Villa

Blackburn

Brentford

Coventry City

Derby County

Bolton

UUD GULLIT arrived nich's former Tottenham back in London yester-striker Jürgen Klinsmann. back in London yester-day to take up his post as Chelsea's player-manager convinced that the club's latest boardroom row will not hinder his ability to bring in more ton players.

The club chairman Ken Bates's decision to pull the plug on a proposed partnership with Chelsea's millionaire director Matthew Harmore ton players.

said. "It [the row] has nothing players.

no do with the team or the Now Bates will finance Gulbe a solution."

Although it is understood

ore top players.

"I have my transfer budget the £10 million that Harding and this will not affect it," he had promised for buying

tus striker Gianluca Vialli, and Chelsea have also had

contact with Bayern Mu-

players: it has to do with the club. I'm confident there will normal transfer fund, which comprises money from Although it is understood that Gullit has yet to sign his contract as manager, he and lined up separate investment Chelsea's managing director for the £17.5 million development of the Shed end of the ready talked with the Juven-

03 Sheffield Wed. 14

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04 Stoke City

02 Sunderland

29 Wimbledon

13 Rangers

01 Tottenham Hot.

20

30

27

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side could be satisfied. The further investments and assistance by Mr Harding which would have followed from agreement will not Later, Bates ruled out any revival of the plan. "There's no going back now...the goalposts kept moving and it was time to put up or shut up. "I have always said that I saw Matthew as my natural

> You can't keep hanging around for the train if it's not going to leave the station." Wales recall

striking pair

BOBBY GOULD has recalled several of Wales's senior players, among them the strikers Mark Hughes and Dean Saunders, for the opening World Cup qualifier in San

Marino on June 2. · But the manager has dropped Vinnie Jones, who returned for the 2-0 defeat and John Hartson, who also played in Lugano. Hartson will travel with the Under-

WALES SQUAD: Southalf (Everton).
Coyne (Transere), Marriett (Wracham);
Borsen (Morwich), Colessen (Bischum),
Jenklas (Huddersfield), Melville
(Sunderland), Symons (Man City),
Brownins (Bristol R), Goes (Norwich),
Harne (Everton, capd), Hughes (Chelsed),
Logs (Birmingham), Perskridge (Shell
Wed), Roblinson (Chariton), Sameges
(Crowe), Glegs (Man Litt), Sameders
(Calsidanay), Taylor (Shell Litt),

Results

Tennis Tennis

ATP ITALIAN OPEN (Rome): First remark? Hartis (US) bt K (Aucus (Slove-lid) 6-1, 6-3; & handsavie (Cro) bt G Russia (Sg) 5-2, 6-3; C Hoya (Sg) bt J Arrase (Sg) 6-2, 6-3; A Casta (Sg) bt K Carlson (Don) 6-1, 6-7, 6-4; M Washington (US) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-4, 6-3; & Edberg (Swe) bt J Siemerink (Noth) 6-3, 8-4; M Washington (US) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-4, 6-3; & Edberg (Swe) bt J Siemerink (Noth) 6-3, 6-4; B Ullimoth (Cr) bt S Matsucia (Japan) 6-4, 6-2; Edberg (Swe) bt J Siemerink (Noth) 6-3, 6-4; B Ullimoth (Cr) bt S Matsucia (Japan) 6-4, 6-2 C Hirase (RB) 7-6, 6-0; P Moschewtie (Gr) bt S Banderman (Ger) 6-1, 2-6, 6-3; T Spiniks (GB) bt R Matheson (GB) 6-3, 2-0 rot; R Trace (Aut) bt P Pala (Cz) 6-4, 6-2; G Stanskamp (SA) bt D Sanders (GB) bt J 6-4, 6-1; N Wead (GB) bt J Barnet (GB) 6-3, 3-0 rot; R Trace (Aut) bt D Sanders (GB) bt J Barnet (GB) 6-3, 6-4; A Parmar (GB) bt J Barnet (GB) 6-7, 6-3, 6-2; O Barrierze (GB) bt J Barnet (GB) 7-6, 8-3.

(US) 6-4, 6-4; S Dopier (Aut) bi R Zrubekova (Slovakia) 6-2, 0-5, 6-0; S Rittner
(Ger) bi B Pulco-Villella (Arg) 6-4, 6-2; J
Wissenser (Aut) bi K Boogari (Neth) 4-6,
6-4, 6-2 M Bracilkie (Aus) bi D F Randrianlay (Islad) 6-3, 6-3; A Cartison (Save) bi S
Cacle (US) 6-M Weingsertner (Ger) 4-6, 6-2,
(US) bi M Weingsertner (Ger) 4-6, 6-2,
(Pel) 6-3, 1-6, 7-6; A Smantenova (Fri bi R
Grande (I) 4-6, 6-2, 6-2; E Lichovitseva
(Rus) bi A Sugiyama (Apan) 8-3, 6-2; L
Hichtorieva (Cz) bi R McCullian (Rus) 6-4,
6-3; T Jaconsenice (Yugo) bi A Montollo
(Sp) 7-6, 6-3; N Savenanshas (Japan) bi V
R Pasical (Sp) 6-4, 5-7, 6-2; E WerdelWittneyer (US) bi S Meier (Ger) 6-4, 6-4,
7-6.

Basebali

MATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 7, Colorado 5, Montreal 7, Houston 6, Philadelphila 6, Alania 6, Philadelphila 9, San Francisco 7, New York 0, Chicago 3, Cincinnati 0, San Diego 6, St Louis 6, Los Angeles 5 Leading stemdings: Eastern: 1, Montreal (W28, L12, Pc164, GBD); 2, Alsana 2, 23 14-622-20; 3, Philadelphila (18-17-514-68), Centrel: 1, Houston (W18, L20, Pc1,474, GBD); 2, Cincinnati (16-18-471-9), 3, Chicago (17-20-469-8), Wenterma 1, San Diego (W22, L15, Pc1,995, GBD); 2, San Francisco (19-17-528-28); 3, Los Angeles (18-20-474-43), Alterseam LEAGUE: Toronto 8, Boston 7 (in 10); Chicago 6, New York 9, Milweukee 8, Ballimore 4, Toroas 3, Detroit 5, Oaklerd 8, Monnesota 3; Sazillo 8, Karsan City 6; Callionnia 1, Cievaland 4, Laading standings: Eastern: 1, New York (W21, L14, Pc1,600, GBO); 2, Ballimore (19-17-526-28); 3, Toronto (17-19-472-48), Centrel 1, Cievaland (W33, L12, Pc1,657, GBO); 2, Chicago (20-16-556-39), 3, Minnesota (16-19-457-7), Westbern 1, Toraja (W24, L13, Pc1,649, GBO); 2, Saatile (20-17-541-4); 3, Oakland (19-17-528-4%).

Cricket SECOND XI C'SHIP (11.0): Chelensford: Gloops 214 (N J Trainor 81). Essex 31–0. Hassingdoor Sussex 154 (Green 5-65) Lancs 82–4 Bioldstoner Kent 379–7 dec (N W Presion 73, R Key 62, D J Spencer 61, S C Willis 60). Leich 18–1. Pontsyptidds Som 417–1 dec (H Morgan 200no, J I D Merr 115, P C L Holloway 89). Glam 30–3. Todinordoon Notic 799 (N P Downan 58). Yorks 92–3. Uxbridge: Middx 259 (J C Harrison 79, K P Duich 63, De La Pena 4-79). Surroy

WINDSOR

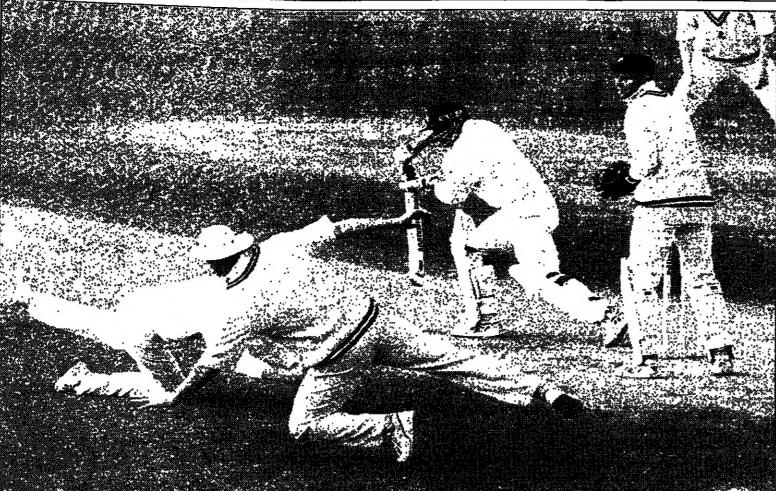
B.O.S. (19m. 67)yda): 1, DELIGHT OF DAWN, C. Scaliy (7-1): 2, Howe With Edec (14-1); 3, Actilize (14-1); 6-1 lav Suntey Secure. 21 ran Mk. 2, IK (vory) Tola: (2),70, (2),30, (1),90, (2),80, Dual F; (719,70) Trio: 1752 40, CSF: (798,80). 6.95 (17m. 37 135)yda): 1, ATLANTIC MIST, S. Drowne (14-1): 2, State Approval (20-1): 3, Glassio Ballet (9-1): 4,

HEINEREN NATIONAL LOE (7.0): First: Cardill v Llanelli, Neath v Pontypridd. Rugby League STONES SUPER LOW Halffar v Wigen. NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier: Woodsion v Hewarth, ALLIANCE: First Divisions Balley Featherstone Rvrs

0891 22 88+ Derbyshire 31 Middlesex 40 32 Northants, 41 33 Nottingham 42 Glamorgan 34 Somerset 43 35 Surrey Hampshire 36 Sussex 37 Warwicks. 46 38 Worcester 47 39 Yorkshire Complete county scores 0891 22 88 30

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The Guardian Tuesday May 14 1996



Out of reach . . . Surrey's Mark Butcher fights a rearguard action at The Oval yesterday. Kent had reached 361, leaving the home team to score 227 for victory. Surrey finished on 160 for six, Martin McCague's spell of three wickets from 11 balls having put them on the back foot PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

County Championship: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

White finds his old fire

David Hopps at Sheffield

RAIG WHITE has withstood more jibes than most for England's recent inadequacies but those who dismiss him as a figment of Raymond Illingworth's imagination might have had cause for a hasty reassess-ment had they witnessed him almost bowl Yorkshire to an unlikely victory.
For a few heady overs, as

commotion in the final hour, White bowled with the pace and hostility that convinced Illingworth, newly installed as chairman of selectors, that he had uncovered the allrounder to answer England's

needs.

On a sound batting pitch of volvement is not in doubt.

Middlesex pace bowler,

yesterday demolished Dur-

ham for 67, their lowest

championship total, to

clinch a 306-run victory at

win Campbell's 23 was

Lord's, writes Don Beet.

Sport in brief

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C43; 2, 2, 3, 1

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34

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white took four for three in 11 balls to leave Derbyshire's ninth-wicket pair, Aldred and Vandrau, blocking the last other 87 from the last 12 overs seven overs for a draw.

Most impressive was White's dismissal of Jones, who was capable of winning the match but who was hounded into eventually fending a catch down the leg side. Three wickets followed in White's following over: Owen For a few heady overs, as pulled to short midwicket; Derbyshire's run chase — 288 Cork, batting with a runner, in 50 overs — was reduced to was bowled in a manner that did not endanger his bruised left toe; and Vandrau was leg-before to a full-length delivery. Cork will miss the Benson and Hedges tie against the Minor Counties today but an X-ray revealed no fracture

Ronnie Irani struck a

match-winning 81 not out as Essex beat Hampshire by his

four wickets at Southamp-

ton. Essex, needing 329

AVID FOLLETT, the | their only double-figure | the day 242

score.

was a distinct possibility. But Adams fell to a brilliant low catch by Silverwood, and Krikken ran himself out next ball, risking a single to back-ward point, where Bevan pounced to hit a single stump at speed. Krikken moves as if he has

scaffolding in his trousers and after such a misjudg-ment, if Jones is half the captain he is reputed to be, now he probably does have. This is one of Yorkshire's latest springs this century.

with the wooded hills still bearing the bleak, brown look of midwinter. Yorkshire

Durham hit new low as Follett takes eight wickets

for seven, lost their last three wickets to Paul Gray-son, whose four for 82 was best first-class drawn match. He is a fine performance.
Desmond Haynes, Susplayer, learning by the day as a championship cricketer. It is unlikely he will be in the one-day squad announced on sex's coach, locked the players in the dressing Sunday but recognition canroom at Hove after they had lost to Warwickshire not be far away. Gloucestershire declared

Tour match: Gloucestershire v Indians

says a little at last

David Foot at Bristol

HERE was an unusual virtually spontaneous ceremonial within the press box during mid-afternoon and it is worth recording. We lined up to applaud a young Indian journalist on his return.

the hacks, for Joseph Hoover had achieved what we had singularly failed to do: he had interviewed the rigidly uncommunicative Andrew Synconds. More than that, he had actually got him to say he wanted to play for England. Symonds has played Garbo long enough. He does not seem to like the English press, even though he has received a cheque or two from them and was yesterday made

them and was yesterday made Man of the Match by them. The award was quite right,

and there was scant indica-

tion then that it would pro-

duce 1,200 runs and only 23

wickets. Yesterday the sur-

face retained its initial bounce and there was also a

hint of turn for Emburey, so

Northants ought to have done better. Glamorgan can per-

haps thank above all the knee injury that kept Curtly Am-

brose out; he would have

been an awesome proposition

Yet if the home attack was generally lacklustre yester-day, Dale and Cottey still

played exceptionally well after James, Morris and, cru-cially it seemed, Maynard had been dismissed. Dale faced

166 balls and hit 13 fours and

without loss to 178 for five,

Richard Montgomerie leading the way with 53, his third

successive championship

half-century. But Alan Ford-

ham took a nasty blow on his

on this track

155 behind on first innings and then the Indians in turn declared at hunch on 144 for six. Sourav Ganguly was 64 not out, with 11 fours and a six to his credit. The depleted county attack had looked a modest one.

Gloucestershire were left to score 300, a tall order made taller when Monte Lynch and Professional respect, even Dominic Hewson rapidly lost envy, showed in the eyes of their off stumps. Symonds the hacks, for Joseph Hoover was moving along discriminwas moving along discriminately, as if pondering the dynamic implications of a late charge, when given out legbefore. Tim Hancock was caught at long-off, by which time it became a matter of Clausetterking belding an Gloucestershire holding on. That they did rather well. Richard Davis and Jon Lewis

stayed for 20 overs. When Davis was well taken in the gully Sheeraz compounded In-dia's frustration. The win-ners' booty had escaped. too. His innings of 120 was the most engaging feature of this decided his initial line-up for the Oval international. But one feels he is going to be relying excessively on the honest pace of Javagal Sri-nath when it comes to the bowling. Gloucestershire's late batsman stayed without

too much trouble last night.

Tennis

Beaten Rusedski turns to Teacher

Stephen Bierley in Rome

REG RUSEDSKI hustled out of the first round of the Italian Open yesterday by the No.2 seed Goran Ivanisevic, will team up with this week in an attempt to lift himself up the world rank-ings and regain his place as Britain's No. 1, recently taken

by Tim Henman. I have to learn to play the big points as well as Goran and I hope Brian will teach me to do this." Teacher, an American, won the Australian Open in 1980 and climbed to No. 7 in the world rankings

like to be up there in the top

10. He can help me with my
return of serve, as he did
Andre Agassi," said Rusedski, who had his moments
against Ivanisevic but not
against Ivanisevic pects Teacher to toughen him up mentally.

The Croatian, by his own the match would have been dimission, has not been play over in a flash of biff and

ing well since reaching the bash; here on clay, rallies final of the Key Biscayne went into double figures.

Rusedski, frequently emafter three sets with a neck problem. His frustration erupted here in the first game of the second set when he twice hurled his racket to the ground, then propelled it into the cooler box by the um-pire's chair. An official warn-

ing followed. Rusedski had also been warned earlier for taking too long between points. He spends an inordinate time wiping his face with a towel and the Italian ball-persons were occasionally slow to res-

pond to his promptings.

It was tough luck, though,
to be drawn against Ivanise-"Brian knows what it is vic at such an early stage. If the to be up there in the top 10. He can help me with my return of serve, as he did occasions. But this was their speed Rusedski won by 133mph to 126. At Wimbledon

Rusedski, frequently em-ploying a deeply sliced backhand, certainly forced the Croatian's hand. "It was tough to pass him." Ivanise-

Rusedski. Rusedski, previously tightly secure, had his serve broken in the seventh game of the first set. He clawed his way back but weakly lost the tie-break 7-3.

play guys like this when there

is no real rhythm to a match."

This, coming from him, was a

Ivanisevic then blew his top and Rusedski might have been advised to try his oppo-nent's frayed patience instead of striving for outright win-ners. A loose Rusedski fore-hand beyond the baseline saw Ivanisevic achieve the vital break and wrap up the match 7-6, 6-3. Rusedski had been mastered; now he awaits his Teacher.

 Ghana, drawn at have rejected Britain's request to switch their Euro-African Group Two Davis Cup tie to England in July.

Dinkum Symonds Battle for Lewis fight

Don Beet

ON KING's plans to stage a world heavy-weight title fight be-tween Mike Tyson and Brit-ain's Lennox Lewis are threatened by competition from Seth Abraham, who heads the American cable network Home Box Office.

Abraham is due in London today to begin masterminding a £65 million package with which he hopes to steal the fight away from the shock-

in the family, as Lewis is con-tracted to HBO. The plan involves HBO, cable stations in Britain, delayed terrestrial TV coverage and a closed-circuit operation. Lewis's handlers, including

his London-based promoter Panos Eliades, have proved flexible in their previous TV dealings, and, with Tyson fighting for King's Showtime channel, Abraham's plan is to produce so much revenue that the champion cannot

Much depends on an appeal in New Jersey Supreme Court in which Tyson is seeking to overrule a lower court judg-ment prohibiting him from

defending against any con-tender other than Lewis and preventing him fighting for any other version of the title. King had lined up Tyson to meet the World Boxing Organisation champion Bruce Seldon in Las Vegas on July 13 but Lewis's manager Frank Maloney insists that his man will also be ready, if required, to fight on that date.

Sport and Television

BBC fights back with bumper package

Andrew Culf Hedia Correspo

PLEA by the BBC's head India's manager Sandeep funds to compete with the

the Olympic Games until 2008, the Commonwealth Games in 1998, the Open golf championship and world ath-letics championships until

months to find extra money to | Cup final from 1998.

screen 300 hours of coverage from the Olympic Games in Atlanta and 50 hours of the Euro 96 championship.

funds to compete with the power of Rupert Murdoch's cheque-book has been approved by the corporation's senior executives.

Jonathan Martin, head of BBC television sport and events, said large steps had been taken over the past four months to find extra money to.

Jonathan very the past four months to find extra money to.

Litics championships until 2001, and soccer's 1998 World get is £125 million, a record for the corporation, but the total is inflated by the £38 million cost of the two main events. The Olympic Games, which will require a production team of 200 in Atlanta, will cost a total of £29 million, a record for the corporation, but the corporation, but the storage of the two main events. The Olympic Games, which will require a production team of 200 in Atlanta, will cost a total of £29 million, a record for the corporation, but the corporation.

The BBC's 1996 sports budget is £125 million, a record for the corporation, but the total is inflated by the £38 million cost of the two main events. The Olympic Games, which will require a production team of 200 in Atlanta, been taken over the past four months to first form next year and the FA £100,000 an hour.

Lancashire v Leicestershire

Millns and Nixon stand firm

Follett took eight for 22 from 69 overs to win, had stumbled to 168 for four before he joined Paul Prich

needing 374 to win. Sher- ard (69) in putting on 112.

Andy Wilson at Old Trafford

T TOOK Leicestershire ex-actly an hour to kill off the final day of this game by scoring the 38 runs required at the start to avoid the followon. That represented quite an achievement by their eighth-wicket pair of Paul Nixon and David Millns, who had come together on Saturday afternion, needing 161 for safety.

Their stand eventually realised 172, a new record for an eighth wicket for Leicesternion.

Millus was then bowled by Gary Keedy, immediately after beating his previous career best of 70. It was a good start for the burly paceman with a first-class battlesses of less of less than the state of less than a sides with a first-class battlesses of less than a sides with a first-class battlesses of less than a sides with a first-class battlesses of less than a sides with a sides with a first-class battlesses of less than a sides with a side age of less than 20, who has set himself an ambitious target of 750 runs this summer. Nixon went on to a hardearned century in a little over

Following Warren Hegg's ruled that the penultimate ball of the match was not a wide.

Hampshire, who started by an innings and 139 runs. Northampton v Glamorgan

Mike Selvey at Northampton

only players to reach three figures in the match. No amount of contrivance could manufacture a result with less than five hours remaining on a blameless Old Trafford pitch, but Leicester-shire's left-arm spinner Matthew Brimson emerged from the ensuing tedium with the notable scalps of Atherton, Gallian and Crawley, the lat-ter two for half-centuries, all

three clean bowled. Co-operation between the Dale's contribution, the backbone of the innings, was captains seemed unlikely anyway after the sides' stormy Sunday League game. Harold Bird told the scorers a composed 120, the 12th cen-tury of his career, and Cottey

ing up has been included in the umpires' report. with the penultimate delivery of the match. Northants will Austin may also warrant a mention for throwing his bat

down in disgust after Bird

Dale's dozenth does it for Welsh

WITH only two wins here in 30 years, Wantage Road had not been Glamorgan's happiest hunting

ground. They made amends yesterday, however, a part-nership of 117 in 22 overs between Adrian Dale and Tony Cottey setting up a fivewicket victory after the Welsh side had been set a generous target of 279.

was unbeaten on 65. After almost four days of skirmishing the finish was frenzied, with a run a ball needed from the final four overs after Dale had been caught-and-bowled by John Emburey with victory in sight. Emburey conceded the winning run to Gary Butcher

be wondering how they lost a contest they seemed to have under control. This pitch was used for a cight thumb, which X-rays one-day match a week ago showed to be fractured.

County Championship (Final day of four)

Scoreboard

SPASTMANN YORKSHITE (SPAN) COWN WITH Dev-byshire (7). First innings 681 (M G Bevan 136, A McGrath S1, D Byss 78, C White 81, M D Monon 83; Melcoim 4–109). DECREVERHER First heritages (overnight 388–4) D.M. Jones not out C M Wells not out _ Extras (BS, nb12)__ - 17

Extras (ib5, w1, nb2) 8

Total (for 3 dec. 36 overs) 138
Fell of wisklacker 5, 6, ID.
Did not bets C White, 1R J Slakey, D
Gough, P J Hartley, C E W Silverwood, R D
Stemp.
Bownling: Malcolm 9-0-30-2; Aldred
13-3-50-1; Wells 7-2-24-0; Vandrau
9-2-28-0.
DEMS VSHUES Second Insulage
K J Barneti c Veuighan b Stemp 51
A S Rollins run out 47
C J Adams c Silverwood b Gough 68
D M Jones C Blekey b White 10
C M Wells not out 19
C Wen o Mexica b White 10
D G Cork b White 0
P Aldred not out 5
Extras (b2, 26) 55 Cottey managed five fours in his 77-ball innings. The chase had been set up by Rob Bailey's lunchtime declaration after Northants had taken the overnight 22

JE R Garlian b Brimson
JE R Garlian b Brimson
JE R Garlian b Brimson
JP Crawley b Brimson
JP Crawley b Brimson
JP Crawley b Brimson
Syspeak not out
Extras (b1, fb3, w1, nb4)

MORTHAMPTOMSHIRE: First Innings 451-6 dec (R J Warren 201no, D J Capet 83, A Fordham 52, R R Montgomerie 51)

and 22-0. and 22-0. GLASORGAN: First imnings 351-7 dec (0. P Butcher 89, S P James 78, M P Maynard 52).

Second Installer (Lorents)th; 22-0)
R R Montgomerie c Kendrick b Creft
A Fortham reth furt
"R J Baltey c Maynerd b Kendrick
B Loye c Butcher b Kendrick
D J Capel c Butcher b Croft
K M Curran not od
L Benhardty of Methan

Total for 5 dec, 43 overs) 778
Pell cont: 117, 135, 163, 162, 168, 162, 168
Sowilage Walkin 5-2-8-0; Thomas 8-0-34-0; Croft 12-0-52-3; Kendrick 11-0-48-2; Butcher 7-0-28-0.

TM P Maynard c Capel b Tayl P A Cottey not out R D B Croft b Taylor G P Butcher not out Extras (b1, lb4, w1, rb8).....

SUSSEIX w WARWICKSHIRE
Hower Warwickshire (24cbs) beat Sussess
(2) by an innings and 139 nms.
WARWICKSHIREER First Innings 945-7 duc
(D A Reeve 168ms, T L Penney 134, N V
Knight 132, D P Cetter 90).
SUSSEIX: First Innings 222 (D R C Law 53,
Welch 4-50) and 187-6 (J W Hall 57, A P
Wells 51).

Total (100.1 overs) 284
Pall of wickets coats 206, 247, 250.
Bowlings Pollock 28-4-78-2; Reeve
4-2-8-0; Brown 17-5-48-2; Weich
6-2-23-0; Giles 39-14-86-3; Smith
8,1-5-89-0

MERICOLESSEX v DORMAM
Lerd'st Middlesex (20pts) bear Durham (5) by 306 rums.

MERICOLLESSEX First Innings 191 (M W Gaz-ting 74, Foster 4–21).

DOTRINASE First Innings 209 (C W Scott 56).

AREAD LESSEX Second Innings 381 (M W Gazing 171, P N Weeks 73, Betts 4–101).

DURNIAM

Second Innings
S L Campbell b Foliett

M A Roseberry Day b Foliett

JE Morris c Gatting b Turinell

JE Morris c Gatting b Turinell

JE D Collingwood live b Foliett

JA Daley a Strown b Foliett

M J Foster b Foliett

C W Scott c Westes b Foliett

J Botting b Fraier

S JE Brown not out

M M Betts c Brown b Foliett

Extras (lb5, nb2)

NORTHANSFTONEMENT CALAMORGAN SUPERINY WILDER SUPERINY WILDER SUPERING WITH SUPERING (G). Trinst mnings 225 (M A Baham 51) and 241-6 (D P Fation 59, M V Fleming 59). SURREMY: First innings 360 (M A Bursher 54, B P Julian 74, C C Lewis 81, Thompson 5-2).

BASEX
Second Immens
Second Imm

Total (for 8, 67 overs) 331
Fall of wtokets: 33, 49, 113, 168, 280, 293,
Boerling: Banjamin 16-2-63-0; Müburn 15-0-61-2; Connor 16-2-73-3; Udal 14-0-88-0; Whitaker 6-0-23-0. Tour match

(Final day of Gree)

OLOUCESTERSHIPE V INDIANS Bristok Match drawn.
INDIANE: First Innings 406 (N S Sidhu
115, R Drawid 85no, V Rethore 63, S V
Manjrobur 55; Alleyne 5-61).
GLOUCESTERSHURE GLOUCEST HERSHURE:
First feetings (overnight: 251-4)
A Symonds not out
"M vir Alleyns not out
Extras (05, lb7)

Total (for 4 dec. 64 overs) _______251
Fell of wickets comb: 28, 34, 38, 178.
Did not bats: †R C J Williams, R P Davis, J
Lowis, D J P Boden, K P Sheeraz,
Bowlings Streat: 18-5-69-3; Vankalesh
14-2-40-0* Ventakapathy 8-1-35-0; Kumble 18-2-59-1, Joshi B-2-47-0

Second losings

V Ratitors c Hencock b Sheeraz

N S Sidnu o Devis b Lewis

S Ganguly not out

R Dravid st Williams b Davis

QUOUCESTERSHIRE

CLOUCESTEDANHING
Second Immings
R 1 Dawson to Dravid
b Venkatesh Presad
D R Heyeson b Venkatesh Presad
M A Lynch b Sirinath
T H C Hancock to Venkatesh Presad
b Venkatepathy Raju
A Symonde libu b Ganguty
M W Alleyne b Venkatesh Presad
r C J Williams b Sirinath
R P Davis c Ganguty b Srinath
J Lewis not out J Lewis not out K P Sheeraz not out ... Extras (b21, /b1, nb6)...

150. DM not best D J P Boden.
Bod not best D J P Boden.
Bodwings Srinath 19-5-27-3; Ventales
Prasad 17-3-38-3; Ganguly 6-0-37-1
Venkatepatity Raju 10-4-10-1; Kumbi
10-5-18-0; Joshi 3-1-8-0.

Starting today BEDISON AND HEDGES CUP (11.0; one day: Fermens British Universities v Middissax. Derbys Derbyshire v Minor Counties. Bristofs (Souccestershire v Hampehre. Biglistions Ireland v Surrey. Canterbury Kent v Gismorgun. Old Traffords Lancaphire v Warwickshire. Lelmoster.



Golf

Harrington thanks Seve for pointing the long way home

David Davies

BY ONE of those quirks of fate, the British Airways flight 5041 from Madrid to Manchester vesterdey show Manchester yesterday chose to fly over Santander. For one of the passengers it was an almost unbelievable coincitown's golf course, Royal Pedrena, home to Severiano Ballesteros, Padraig Harrington

last week's Spanish Open, to beat Ballesteros by 16 shots. But the Irishman is convinced of two things: that to play 36 holes on the last day of the rain-affected tournament the rain-affected tournament the ton four of 24 murnaments.

game. The more chances he got, he reasoned, the more he could take.

He has not always been so positive. "Between the ages of the ton four of 24 murnaments that the ton four of 24 murnaments."

starts racing and then so do I. Everything speeds up and I lose my rhythm."

The aspect of his win that pleased him most was that "I never saw the winning post that the ton four of 24 murnaments. vinced of two things: that to play 36 holes on the last day of the rain-affected tournament was the right thing to do, and that it was because of the urging of Ballesteros that it was not a 54-hole tournament.

Ballesteros wanted 72 holes because to a Spaniard this because to a Spaniard this because to a Spaniard this because of that tendency he

dence and as the aeroplane winged its way over the because to a Spaniard this Ballesteros wanted 72 holes because to a Spaniard this event represents their championship and he felt it should be decided over the "proper" distance. Harrington agreed, whose chief function is to said: "Perhaps it's because of him I won the Spanish Open."
Harrington, three times a Walker Cup player and the

keep Harrington relaxed and be," he said. "If that means his mind off golf until the winning majors, great; if it time comes to concentrate means not winning again. Walker Cup player and the latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest and confident in his latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had a 16-under-par total of 272 at latest in a long line of first-time winners this season, had

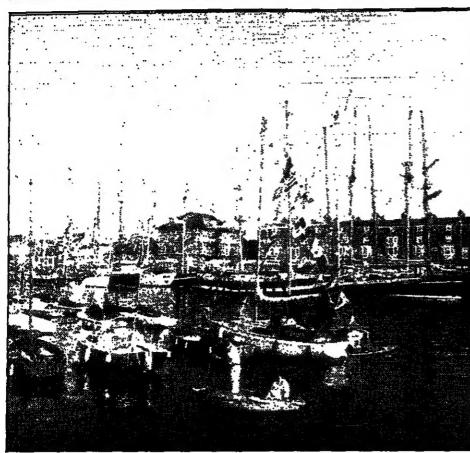
until the last hole". He never allowed himself to think that

the Order of Merit for a fort-night he will qualify to play in the US Open. Indeed, he does not want to think about major championships. "I'm going to make my-self into the best golfer I can

if he maintains his position in

Sports Guardian

CAN WEYMOUTH GATECRASH YACHTING'S MOST EXCLUSIVE PARTY?



San Diego . . . bulging with the action of last year's America's Cup

John Duncan and Bob Fisher report on an unlikely south coast challenge for the America's Cup and the mystery over its backers

Dorset gripped by cup fever

snatch the America's Cup from New Zealand and bring the most expenshelves of the former Spinnaker Restaurant in

The 121-year-old club this week dispatched to New Zealand the required \$100,000 cheque to get into competition, and not a few smirks, from other contenders. Its courier was Sir Peter Blake, the Kiwi who won the cup a year ago but has a home here.

At present the contenders include San Francisco (Paul Cayard), St Thomas Holmberg) and the New

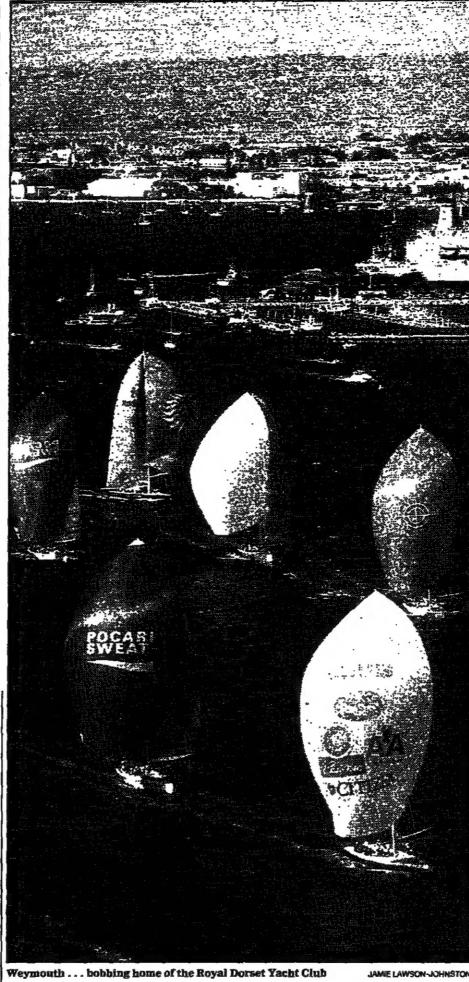
HE Royal Dorset | York Yacht Club, which Yacht Club has beld the cup for 132 years launched an auda | to 1983. Other challenges cious campaign to have come from Spain,

Japan and France. Weymouth is an unlikely challenger, with few of the qualities required by the well-beeled aficionados of yachting. The resort, once favoured by royalty, has not been a playboy's paradise for many years. Its cur-rent reputation is more candy-floss than caviar.

Mounting a campaign for this trophy costs upwards of £30 million. The club does not have the money but is said to be acting on behalf of a mystery consortium. This may include Richard Branson, though the club's commodore, Bill Simmonds, refused to reveal who would provide the financial muscle.

tium, the design group and sailing and support teams will not be released at this time," said Simmonds, a lifeboatman. "This is all the club can or will say at to sharing details of the challenge at an early opportunity, hopefully at the be

ginning of next year. The only people whose in-volvement is confirmed so far are Angus Melrose and Chris Witty. Melrose was associated with both the 1983 and 1987 British challenges, principally as a sail designer: Witty has a background of Formula One notor racing with the trucking magnate Ted Toleman and others, and he has also been associated with some of Branson's major sporting projects.



Wigan shatter 100 years of attitude



Richard Williams

rugby people were nudging one another and saying what a hoot it would be if Wigan made a decent showing in the Middlesex Sevens, They couldn't win the thing, of course. But the rugby league champions would be good enough to give the boys a bit of a fright, even if they didn't quite get the hang of it.

By the morning of the tournament, thanks to the cataclysmic events at Maine Road on Wednesday, Wigan were suddenly odds on to win the

Twickenham showpiece.
One lesson the world has learnt in the last decade is that the established order can change just about overnight been there for as long as anyone can remember; the next thing you know, they're truck ing Lenin's statue to the tip on the outskirts of town and putting a McDonald's sign on the People's Palace. A year ago, who would have put the price of a beer on an end to the hundred years' war between the

rugby codes? So far the fascination of the collisions on the field has been rivalled by the nuances of the after-match comments. I loved Shaun Edwards's remark at Pwickenham, a masterpiece of mild provocation. "Remem-ber," the Wigan skipper said, "we're not even the best club in the league. That must be St

Indeed, the only way to stop have been to get a late entry for seven men from another top league side. As reported in these pages yesterday, that may happen at next year's event, when Wigan will gain an automatic entry as holders

of the trophy.

Rugby union is to be congratulated on the symbolic steps taken in the past few days towards an historic rapprochement in one way, howver, it did itself no favours on Saturday. The entry for the Sevens was almost an insult to the distinguished visitors, although Wigan would have been justified in privately taklot of people were running scared.

Bath, of course, withdrew

earlier in the week. But on the way to claiming the title, Wigan dismissed Richmond, Harlequins, Leicester and Wasps, historically four of the English union's biggest clubs. Yet only one current England player, Lawrence Dallaglio. turned up to face the invaders during the course of the afternoon. He at least, having led Wasps' wholehearted at-tempt to repel the invaders, could look at himself in the bathroom mirror on Sunday morning without a guilty

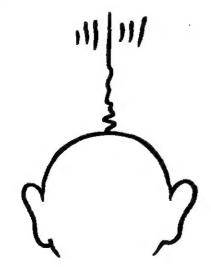
It was, we were informed. the end of a long and tiring season for the union clubs. Tell that to Wigan. This time last year they had just fin-ished winning all four tro-phies available to them in the ast of the old-fashioned league seasons. After that they took part in the abbreviated 20game Centenary Championship from August to January — interrupted in October by the World Cup games, to which they contributed 16 players — before starting again in March with the new Super League programme, in which they have so far played six matches. And yet at Maine Road their athleticism and alertness set standards that rugby union will take years to

HE trouble with the 15man code in the British Isles is that it is a great game generally played to a very poor standard. Until this year the level of unforced errors, tactical indiscipline and a general inability to observe the rules, even in Five Nations matches, could be legitimately excused as a reflec-tion of its amateur status. No longer. Exposure to southern hemisphere standards in the World Cup has lifted the spectafors' expectations; proper payment of the players will improve the spectacle by en-abling skills and fitness to be

players as examples But not in time for the return fixture a week on Saturday. In recent days those people who were initially pre-dicting a 50-point victory for Bath under union rules have been revising their estimate down to a margin of 20 points or so. By a week on Friday, they'll be thinking in

terms of a draw. No doubt Wigan are taking the question of code-reversal nore seriously than Bath did. In the circumstances, they probably won't need my advice on preparation, but here it is anyway; by all means learn the rules of the set scrum and the line-out, but then for heaven's sake forget them. Everyone else has.

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Back ban angers Tigers

Robert Armstrong on the six-month suspension of Leicester's England flanker

month suspension the Rugby Football Union has imposed on Neil Back for pushing the referee Steve Lander at the end of the Pilkington Cup final on May 4.

The beaten finalists, who lost to Bath 16-15 at Twickenham, yesterday issued a state-ment on behalf of Back in which they said they "were disappointed at the severity of the sentence". If the appeal does go ahead, it will almost certainly hinge on the panel's acceptance of Back's explana

tion that he thought he was pushing Bath's Andy Robinson and not the referee. Leicester, who held their own preliminary inquiry last week, may argue that because the disciplinary panel accepted Back's explanation, the length of the ban, which runs until November 4, is not commensurate with his crime.

As a professional rugby player, Back, who won five England caps at open-side flanker, can expect to forfeit substantial bonuses through missing at least 10 first-team matches at the start of next season. They are likely to in- committee, Bob Rogers (Sus-

Neil Lyndon

EICESTER are poised clude the Tigers' opening pool to challenge the six game in the revamped European Cup which the club need to win to be sure of progress ing to the knock-out stages.

Back would also be ruled out of the England A tour the RFU is planning for August, a Leicester tour of South Africa and two Barbarians matches in France and Japan.

The RFU panel, which sat for 4% hours, found the 27-year-old guilty of "conduct which was prejudicial to the

interests of the game, although it took into account his previous good conduct and his apology to the refer-ee". Lander, who awarded a controversial penalty try which in effect gave Bath vic-tory, declared the matter closed in a written statement after accepting Back's apology in the referee's dressing

Lander said after bearing yesterday's verdict: "I am absolutely satisfied that the principle of not laying hands on the referee has been upheld. You can feel vulnerable out there with such power and

Learned feminist scholars have said that I must

that I must have trouble getting a woman or that

have a small penis, or that I must be impotent,

I must hate women. Such are the refinements

of argument in the gender debate.

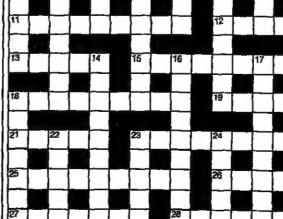
sex), Peter Trunkfield (Nottinghamshire) and Bol Taylor (National Cinhs Association), made up the dis-ciplinary panel, which con-sidered video analysis which showed that Back had pushed

The committee's assessment of the player's culpability can be gauged from the fact that Ireland's Peter Clohessy also received a six-month ban, in his case for kicking an opponent during a Pive Nations match against

France in February. It could be argued that Back's punishment might have been more severe, per day of next season instead of retrospectively from May 4. In that event Leicester's pros-pects in domestic and European competitions would have been severely damaged rather than slightly dented given the importance of Back's role as a creative link man between forwards and

The unique features of the incident, which include a case of mistaken identity accepted by all the parties in-volved, may well persuade the RFU that Back's sentence should be halved, especially energy surrounding you."

Three members of the RFU shed record is taken into



5 He wrote to monarch about

lip-service (7) 9 He entered the ring with

some empty sonneteering (5) 10 Able to play on one sort of * old instrument? (9) 11 Where in church to find lines

12 Perfect fish to a beginner (5) 13 Chooses politician in jet-set

15 Having striking effect on child in play perhaps (9)

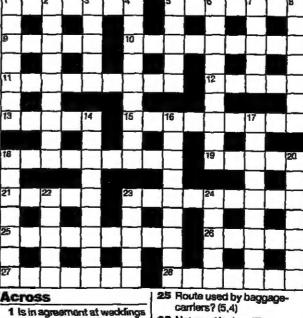
18 The German campanologist's arm (9) 19 Refused to leave work-

reaction in onlooker (5) 23 Getting rid of scrimmaging (9)

material (5) 21 Fabric evoking some

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Set by Janus



26 Net used in river (5) 27 Forsakes barren tracts (7) 28 Wanders round and gets commissions (7)

1 List of churchwomen liable to change (7) by John (9) 2 List of questions for journal

on trial (4,5) 3 Language rich in dialectical choice (5)

4 Not much fish of a measured size (9)

5 Money subscribed for young animal (5) 6 Nothing against royal persons going round country districts (9)

7 One wise man's appearance



2

17 di 18

8 Elderly-looking convict's bird (7) 14 Sail needed to turn drum (9)

16 Some crest for a bird! (9) 17 Insight shown during training (9)

18 Marked? Indeed not! (7) 20 Does she point the way out?

22 Words of love accepted by sisters (5) 23 Notices rising arrests (5) 24 Problem for extist's model (5) Solution temerrow

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